SATURDAY
March 22, 2025

BENGALURU
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Language issue raked up to hide corruption in T.N., says Amit Shah

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah addressing the Rajya Sabha on Friday. SANSAD TV/PTI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday accused the Tamil Nadu government of using the language issue to hide its "corrupt activities, scams and scandals", while asserting that the BJP government at the Centre was not opposed to any south Indian language. He said they would go to each village and expose the intent behind the DMK government raking up the Hindi imposition issue.

Replying to a debate on the working of the Union Home Ministry in the Rajya Sabha, Mr. Shah said terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir were buried where they were killed and there had been no procession of the bodies since 2019. "We shoot them between the eyes as soon as we spot them," Mr. Shah said, referring to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's remark during Bharat Jodo Yatra that he saw terrorists from a distance in Kashmir.

In his two-hour speech, Mr. Shah did not respond to Opposition's queries on the Census and concerns by southern States over the population-based delimitation of parliamentary seats. Census was last done in 2011 and has been pending since 2021.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

SC says judge's transfer is not related to 'rumours'

SC says proposal to transfer Justice Yashwant Varma was based on Collegium's procedure; Delhi HC has initiated an internal inquiry into 'incident', and findings will be reviewed by CJI, it adds

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court issued a statement on Friday that "misinformation and rumours" are being spread with regard to an "incident" at the residence of Delhi High Court judge, Justice Yashwant Varma, compelling the apex court Collegium to transfer him out.

The statement from the Supreme Court came after a report by *The Times of India*, followed by source-based online media reports, that a "huge pile of cash" was recovered when a fire broke out in the residential bungalow of the judge.

The press note issued by the Supreme Court, while confirming the existence of a proposal to transfer Justice Varma, stated categorically that it was unconnected with an in-house enquiry procedure into the "incident".

"The proposal for transfer of Justice Yashwant Varma, who is the second seniormost judge in the Delhi High Court and a member of the Collegium to his parent High Court, i.e., the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad, where he will be ninth in seniority, is independent and separate from the in-house enquiry procedure," it informed.

The apex court note said the transfer proposal has been examined by the Supreme Court Collegium. The Collegium has further asked for feedback on the proposal from consultee judges of the Supreme Court, the Chief Justices of the High Courts concerned and also from Justice Varma. "Responses received will be examined and, thereupon, the Collegium will pass a resolution," the statement said.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Judicial path

A brief look at the career of Justice Yashwant Varma, born on January 6, 1969 in Allahabad

1992: Enrolled as an advocate

October 13, 2014 — Appointed Additional Judge, Allahabad High Court

February 1, 2016 — Took oath as Permanent Judge, Allahabad High Court

October 11, 2021 — Appointed Judge, Delhi High Court

Is Allahabad HC a trash bin, asks bar association

NEW DELHI
Responding to the "proposed repatriation" of Justice Yashwant Varma to the Allahabad High Court, the Bar Association of the court has asked if the High Court was "a trash bin". » PAGE 15

CM, Ministers set to take home heftier salary

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Elected representatives of the State are set to take home double their current salaries soon. The Legislative Assembly and Council, on the last day of the Budget session, passed two Bills to increase the salaries and allowances of MLAs, MLCs, the CM, and Ministers. Together, they will cost ₹62 crore annually on the State exchequer.

Amid pandemonium over allegations of honey-trap against leaders, the Karnataka Legislatures Salaries, Pensions and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 2025, and the Karnataka Ministers Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 2025, were passed. "Considerable increase in the cost of living" was cited as the reason for the hike.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 10

NEARBY

Bill on quota for Muslims passed amid protests

BENGALURU
The Bill that provides for 4% reservation to contractors from Muslim community in public works was passed in both Houses of the legislature on Friday. » PAGE 10

Bandh unlikely to have impact

BENGALURU
The State-wide bandh called by Kannada Okkoota on Saturday in protest against the recent assault on a KSRTC driver in Maharashtra, is not expected to significantly disrupt life in the city.
» PAGE 3

Free power for anganwadis planned

BENGALURU
After providing free electricity to government schools and colleges, the Karnataka government is now mulling over providing free electricity to all anganwadi centres across the State. » PAGE 8

PROPERTYPLUS » PAGES 7 & 8

Speaker suspends 18 BJP MLAs for six months

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Papers being thrown towards Speaker U.T. Khader in the Legislative Assembly in Bengaluru on Friday.

Legislative Assembly Speaker U.T. Khader on Friday suspended 18 MLAs belonging to the Opposition BJP for six months for their "indiscipline and disrespectful behaviour" towards his chair during the ruckus in the House over the allegations of honey-trapping.

The 18 members, among other Opposition members, had not only indulged in a vociferous protest demanding a judicial or CBI probe into the allegations by Cooperation Minister K.N. Rajanna that 48 personalities, including legislators, Central leaders, and judges, had become victims of organised honey-trapping, but had also torn papers and booklets and hurled them towards the Speaker.

The suspended members are barred from attending the legislature session or entering the Assembly Hall or its gallery during this period. They are also barred from getting any allowances.

The MLAs tore papers and hurled them at the Speaker during a protest seeking judicial or CBI probe into the charge of organised honey-trapping

Those suspended

The episode unfolded even as Chief Minister Siddaramaiah was replying to the debate on the State Budget. The suspended members include former Deputy Chief Minister C.N. Ashwath Narayan and former Ministers Byrati Basavaraj and Munirathna. The others suspended are: Doddanagouda Patil, S.R. Vishwanath, Channabasappa, M.R. Patil, Suresh Gowda, Sharanu Salagar, Shylendra Beldale, C.K. Ramamurthy, Yashpal Suvarna, B.P. Harish, Bharat Shetty, Chandru Lamani, Dheeraj Muniraju, Umanath Kotyan, and Basavaraju Mathimod.

When the House re-assembled for the post-lunch session, the Speaker described the "disrespectful" behaviour of the Opposition members towards his chair as "unpardonable" and named the 18 members.

Following this, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil appealed to the Speaker to suspend them. A motion in this regard was adopted through a voice vote.

Physically carried out

Soon after this, the suspended members were physically carried out of the House by the marshals who had gathered in huge numbers.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 6

Freed from the wing, Ousmane Dembele takes flight in Paris

When he moved to Barcelona in 2017, the French wide forward had the world at his feet. But it wasn't until this season at PSG that he assumed his final form as an unstoppable No. 9. Nobody in Europe's top-five leagues has scored more goals in 2025 — and Dembele isn't done yet

Associated Press
Agence France-Presse

When he stepped up to take his penalty during the shootout at Anfield, Ousmane Dembele offered a glimpse of the multidimensional threat he carries at all times – even in the most adverse conditions. The Champions League round-of-16 tie against Liverpool had entered its climax, the anxiety was at breaking point, but it appeared to make no difference to Dembele.

The Paris Saint-Germain attacker shaped as if he were about to kick his penalty left-footed, then shuffled around to smash it in right-footed. Even if Alisson – near impenetrable over two legs – hadn't bought Dembele's bluff, he would have had to invest some energy in considering it. For, the Frenchman is a rare ambipedal footballer, so strong with both feet that an old video of a dumbfounded journalist asking Dembele which foot he preferred remains a popular meme.

On the fast track

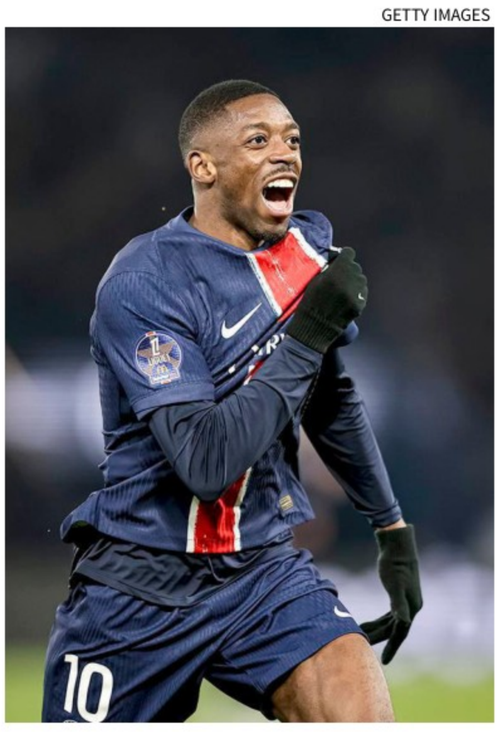
It was Dembele's astonishing skill and trickery with both feet that made him Barcelona's most expensive signing for an eye-watering €105 million (plus 40 million in add-ons) in 2017. His time as a teenager at Rennes and Borussia Dortmund had many in the football world – scouts, data analysts, sporting directors, coaches and players – convinced that he was on track to becoming one of the game's best. The move to Barcelona as a 20-year-old, to replace Neymar and play alongside Lionel Messi, seemed the defining step in his inevitable ascension to greatness.

But the hero arc did not quite play out in the manner many expected it to. Dembele's time at Camp Nou was a blend of injury setbacks, off-field issues and wasteful finishing. There were still jaw-dropping moments, trophy success, even occasional signs that he may yet realise his phenomenal potential. But a return of 40 goals and 41 assists from 185 matches over six seasons wasn't the elite attacking output big European clubs pay a premium for.

When he moved to Paris in 2023, it appeared as though Dembele would live out the rest of his footballer life as a very good player, just not quite a Ballon D'Or contender. But a story that has defied expectations defied that expectation, too.

> Back when I played PlayStation as a kid, he was the kind of player you'd choose to change the game. He can dribble past two or three players, make decisive passes and score goals
> **LUIS ENRIQUE**
> PSG manager

GETTY IMAGES



For, it is at PSG this year that Dembele appears to have assumed his final form as the unstoppable force many foresaw a decade ago.

After his dazzling performance over two legs against Liverpool, in which the Reds defence just couldn't live with his menacing movement, mazy dribbling and creative passing, Dembele scored in PSG's 3-1 win over Marseille at the Parc des Princes in a meeting of the top two in Ligue 1 before the international break. The goal took the 27-year-old's tally to 30 for PSG in all competitions this season. This includes a run of 25 goals since mid-December and 22 in 2025, more than any other player in Europe's top-five leagues.

The key to Dembele's emergence as a prolific scorer within a free-flowing system on offence is his move from the wing to the middle. In central areas as a roaming No. 9, his two-footedness makes him a nightmare to defend against. He was one of the world's best small-space dribblers on the wing, but defenders could, in theory if not always in practice, use the touchline to restrict his progress. That simply isn't an option in the centre, where he can beat you off either foot on either side. Once he does that, he is much closer to goal than he would have been starting wide.

As Dembele said of his switch to No. 9, "As soon as I take the best of a player [beat my marker], I find myself in front of goal. I have the lucidity to score."

Filling an Mbappe-sized hole

A lot of credit should go to manager Luis Enrique, who came up with the idea of Dembele as a centre-forward working seamlessly with wingers Khvicha Kvaratskhelia and Bradley Barcola. Kylian Mbappe's decision to leave for Real Madrid last summer opened the door for Enrique to impose his views that a well-oiled unit would be more efficient than a squad relying on the genius of the France superstar. An interesting fall-out of Enrique's decision appears to be the inception of another French superstar.

Enrique said he is imposing no limits on how good Dembele can become as a scorer. "Back when I played PlayStation as a kid, he was the kind of player you'd choose when you needed someone to change the game," said Enrique. "Ousmane has always been a different player, whatever his position. He can dribble past two or three players, make decisive passes and score goals. He was already good last season but in 2025 he is even better.

"Right now, he is in an absolutely spectacular phase. His statistics have exploded compared to the beginning of his career, that's obvious. He has to be important for the team, not just scoring goals. I believe that Ousmane, very clearly, can become one of the leaders of the team."

Interestingly, the Enrique-Dembele relationship hasn't been all smooth. A tipping point came last November when the manager dropped his forward for disciplinary reasons, saying he did it for the good of the team. "When a player doesn't meet their obligations, this is the sort of thing that can happen," he said. *L'Equipe* reported that Enrique and Dembele had verbally clashed, but the manager claimed there had been no argument.

Whatever the truth, the episode coincided with the start of Dembele's world-beating run. And even as he has scored loads of goals, he has not coasted defensively. Enrique demands a high work-rate off the ball, one of the "obligations" all his players have to meet. Dembele's out-of-possession diligence and pressing intensity have not slipped.

Living up to his word

The 27-year-old has proven an all-action, all-angles centre-forward, harrying defenders to win possession, dropping deep to knit play, attacking from wide to change things up. He had made a bet with his teammates at the start of the season that he would hit 30 goals, with the promise of a luxury watch in return as an incentive. But even that doesn't fully explain his newly evident hunger to score, perhaps best seen in successive hattricks in a 4-1 away thrashing of Stuttgart in the Champions League and a 5-2 Ligue 1 demolition of Brest.

Even as he has become PSG's main man, he seems to have bought into Enrique's team-first vision. "The players, whether it's Bradley Barcola, Desire Doue or Kvara [Kvaratskhelia], give me great service," he said. "The team is in a good dynamic. Everyone is focused and playing really well and that helps me to score goals if I am in the right positions."

Another Ligue 1 title has been all but secured. If Dembele can light up the business end of the Champions League, a career-defining season will gain immortality.

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Jannik Sinner	23	11,330	16
2	Alexander Zverev	27	7,945	22
3	Carlos Alcaraz	21	6,910	18
4	Taylor Fritz	27	4,900	22
5	Novak Djokovic	37	3,860	19
6	Casper Ruud	26	3,855	25
7	Jack Draper	23	3,800	20
8	Daniil Medvedev	29	3,680	20
9	Andrey Rublev	27	3,440	28
10	Stefanos Tsitsipas	26	3,405	23
11	Alex de Minaur	26	3,335	23
12	Holger Rune	21	3,270	23
13	Tommy Paul	27	3,030	20
14	Ben Shelton	22	2,980	24
15	Grigor Dimitrov	33	2,745	19

Top Indians ▶

Sumit Nagal
Rank 139 ▼ 7 spots

Mukund Sasikumar
Rank 444 ▲ 4 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	26	9,606	20
2	Iga Swiatek	23	7,375	17
3	Coco Gauff	21	6,063	21
4	Jessica Pegula	31	5,361	18
5	Madison Keys	30	5,004	19
6	Mirra Andreeva	17	4,710	18
7	Jasmine Paolini	29	4,518	18
8	Elena Rybakina	25	4,448	19
9	Qinwen Zheng	22	3,985	20
10	Emma Navarro	23	3,859	25
11	Paula Badosa	27	3,736	23
12	Daria Kasatkina	27	3,061	24
13	Diana Shnaider	20	2,938	27
14	Karolina Muchova	28	2,854	17
15	Danielle Collins	31	2,853	17

Top Indians ▶

Ankita Raina
Rank 300 ▼ 6 spots

Sahaja Yamalapalli
Rank 312 ▼ 11 spots

English Premier League Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Liverpool	29	21	7	1	69	27	42	70
2	Arsenal	29	16	10	3	53	24	29	58
3	N. Forest	29	16	6	7	49	35	14	54
4	Chelsea	29	14	7	8	53	37	16	49
5	Man. City	29	14	6	9	55	40	15	48
6	Newcastle	28	14	5	9	47	38	9	47
7	Brighton	29	12	11	6	48	42	6	47
8	Fulham	29	12	9	8	43	38	5	45
9	Aston Villa	29	12	9	8	41	45	-4	45
10	Bournemouth	29	12	8	9	48	36	12	44
11	Brentford	29	12	5	12	50	45	5	41
12	Crystal Palace	28	10	9	9	36	33	3	39
13	Man. United	29	10	7	12	37	40	-3	37
14	Tottenham	29	10	4	15	55	43	12	34
15	Everton	29	7	13	9	32	36	-4	34
16	West Ham	29	9	7	13	33	49	-16	34
17	Wolves	29	7	5	17	40	58	-18	26
18	Ipswich Town	29	3	8	18	28	62	-34	17
19	Leicester City	29	4	5	20	25	65	-40	17
20	Southampton	29	2	3	24	21	70	-49	9

Italian Serie A Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Inter Milan	29	19	7	3	65	27	38	64
2	Napoli	29	18	7	4	45	23	22	61
3	Atalanta	29	17	7	5	63	28	35	58
4	Bologna	29	14	11	4	49	34	15	53
5	Juventus	29	13	13	3	45	28	17	52
6	Lazio	29	15	6	8	50	41	9	51
7	Roma	29	14	7	8	44	30	14	49
8	Fiorentina	29	14	6	9	46	30	16	48
9	AC Milan	29	13	8	8	44	33	11	47
10	Udinese	29	11	7	11	35	39	-4	40
11	Torino	29	9	11	9	34	34	0	38
12	Genoa	29	8	11	10	28	37	-9	35
13	Como	29	7	8	14	35	46	-11	29
14	Verona	29	9	2	18	29	58	-29	29
15	Cagliari	29	6	8	15	28	44	-16	26
16	Lecce	29	6	7	16	21	48	-27	25
17	Parma	29	5	10	14	35	49	-14	25
18	Empoli	29	4	10	15	23	46	-23	22
19	Venezia	29	3	11	15	23	42	-19	20
20	Monza	29	2	9	18	24	49	-25	15

Spanish LaLiga Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Barcelona	27	19	3	5	75	27	48	60
2	Real Madrid	28	18	6	4	59	27	32	60
3	Atletico Madrid	28	16	8	4	46	22	24	56
4	Athletic Bilbao	28	14	10	4	46	24	22	52
5	Villarreal	27	12	8	7	49	38	11	44
6	Real Betis	28	12	8	8	38	35	3	44
7	Real Mallorca	28	11	7	10	28	34	-6	40
8	Celta Vigo	28	11	6	11	41	41	0	39
9	Rayo Vallecano	28	9	10	9	31	31	0	37
10	Sevilla	28	9	9	10	32	37	-5	36
11	Getafe	28	9	9	10	25	23	2	36
12	Real Sociedad	28	10	5	13	25	30	-5	35
13	Girona	28	9	7	12	36	41	-5	34
14	Osasuna	27	7	12	8	33	39	-6	33
15	Espanyol	27	7	7	13	26	39	-13	28
16	Valencia	28	6	10	12	31	46	-15	28
17	Alaves	28	6	9	13	32	42	-10	27
18	Leganes	28	6	9	13	26	43	-17	27
19	Las Palmas	28	6	7	15	32	47	-15	25
20	Real Valladolid	28	4	4	20	18	63	-45	16

German Bundesliga Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Bayern	26	19	5	2	75	24	51	62
2	Leverkusen	26	16	8	2	59	33	26	56
3	Mainz	26	13	6	7	44	28	16	45
4	E. Frankfurt	26	13	6	7	54	40	14	45
5	RB Leipzig	26	11	9	6	41	33	8	42
6	SC Freiburg	26	12	6	8	36	38	-2	42
7	M'gladbach	26	12	4	10	43	40	3	40
8	Wolfsburg	26	10	8	8	49	40	9	38
9	FC Augsburg	26	10	8	8	29	35	-6	38
10	Stuttgart	26	10	7	9	47	43	4	37
11	Dortmund	26	10	5	11	45	41	4	35
12	W. Bremen	26	9	6	11	40	53	-13	33
13	Union Berlin	26	7	6	13	23	39	-16	27
14	Hoffenheim	26	6	8	12	32	48	-16	26
15	St Pauli	26	7	4	15	20	30	-10	25
16	Bochum	26	5	5	16	27	52	-25	20
17	Heidenheim	26	5	4	17	31	52	-21	19
18	Holstein Kiel	26	4	5	17	38	64	-26	17

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Joe Root	895	932
2	Harry Brook	876	898
3	Kane Williamson	867	919
4	Yashasvi Jaiswal	847	854
5	Steve Smith	823	947
6	Temba Bavuma	769	769
7	Kamindu Mendis	761	779
8	Travis Head	748	884
9	Usman Khawaja	739	847
9	Rishabh Pant	739	801

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jasprit Bumrah	908	908
2	Kagiso Rabada	837	902
3	Pat Cummins	824	914
4	Josh Hazlewood	818	864
5	Nathan Lyon	812	812
6	Noman Ali	806	806
7	Marco Jansen	785	803
8	Matt Henry	782	782
9	Prabath Jayasuriya	751	801
10	Ravindra Jadeja	745	899

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Shubman Gill	784	847
2	Babar Azam	770	898
3	Rohit Sharma	756	882
4	Heinrich Klaasen	744	760
5	Virat Kohli	736	909
6	Daryl Mitchell	721	750
7	Harry Tector	713	767
8	Shreyas Iyer	704	710
9	Charith Asalanka	694	694
10	Ibrahim Zadran	676	693

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Maheesh Theekshana	680	686
2	Mitchell Santner	657	657
3	Kuldeep Yadav	650	761
4	Keshav Maharaj	648	741
5	Bernard Scholtz	644	648
6	Matt Henry	642	691
7	Rashid Khan	640	799
8	Gudakesh Motie	632	639
9	Shaheen Afridi	619	696
10	Ravindra Jadeja	616	733

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Travis Head	856	885
2	Abhishek Sharma	829	829
3	Philip Salt	815	881
4	Tilak Varma	804	845
5	Suryakumar Yadav	739	912
6	Jos Buttler	735	756
7	Pathum Nissanka	714	722
8	Babar Azam	702	900
9	Mohammad Rizwan	695	882
10	Kusal Perera	676	786

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Akeal Hosein	707	714
2	Varun Chakravarthy	706	706
3	Adil Rashid	705	747
4	Wanindu Hasaranga	700	809
5	Adam Zampa	694	746
6	Ravi Bishnoi	674	707
7	Maheesh Theekshana	666	686
8	Rashid Khan	664	828
9	Arshdeep Singh	653	679
10	Jofra Archer	649	668

PUNJAB STATE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION
SCO 74-75, BANK SQUARE, SECTOR-17B CHANDIGARH
PBX : 0172-5197847, 5197846

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

PSWC invites online tenders through GeM Portal for creation of 1.30 LMT godown capacities in the State of Punjab for guaranteed lease of 10 years on Build, own and Lease basis for storage requirements of FCI under two bid system 'Technical Bid' and 'Financial Bid'.
NIT (alongwith GeM Bid IDs) is available on Department's website i.e. https://pswc.in
Note: Any corrigendum(s)/Notification(s) to this Notice Inviting E-Tender shall be published Department's website & GeM Portal.
PSWC/12/69/2023/42866

FORM A
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
(Regulation 14 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Voluntary Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2017)
FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE STAKEHOLDERS OF PATTU FABRICS PRIVATE LIMITED

1	NAME OF CORPORATE PERSON	**PATTU FABRICS PRIVATE LIMITED**
2	DATE OF INCORPORATION OF CORPORATE PERSON	06.09.2002
3	AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH CORPORATE PERSON IS INCORPORATED / REGISTERED	ROC-Bangalore
4	CORPORATE IDENTITY NUMBER / LIMITED LIABILITY IDENTITY NUMBER OF CORPORATE PERSON	U18101KA2002PTC030975
5	ADDRESS OF THE REGISTERED OFFICE AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE (IF ANY) OF CORPORATE PERSON	No, 1 Ground Floor 8th Cross Cubbonpet, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560002
6	LIQUIDATION COMMENCEMENT DATE OF CORPORATE PERSON	18.03.2025
7	NAME, ADDRESS, EMAIL ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER AND THE REGISTRATION NUMBER OF THE LIQUIDATOR, AUTHORISATION FOR ASSIGNMENT (AFA) Validity	CS THIRUPAL GORIGE No. 87, 2nd Floor, 21st Cross, 7th Main, N S. Palya, BTM 2nd stage, Bangalore-560076, Karnataka, India Cell +91 94483 84064, LL +080 79634233 email: gthirupal@gmail.com IP REG. NO. IBBI/IPA-002/IP-N00016/2016-17/10030 AFA valid up to30-06-2025.
8	LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF CLAIMS	17.04.2025

Notice is hereby given that **Pattu Fabrics Private Limited** has commenced voluntary liquidation on **18.03.2025**.
The stakeholders of **Pattu Fabrics Private Limited** are hereby called upon to submit a proof of their claims, on or before**17.04.2025** to the liquidator at the address mentioned against item 7.
The financial creditors shall submit their proof of claims by electronic means only. All other stakeholders may submit the proof of claims in person, by post or by electronic means. Submission of false or misleading proofs of claim shall attract penalties.

Date : 21/03/2025
Place : Bangalore
Sd/-
Thirupal Gorige
Liquidator

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

Tender Notification (Though KPP Portal)

Notification No: KHB/CE/AEF/CHS/KHB/2024-25/SE0258 Dated: 21.03.2025
Karnataka Housing Board has invited tenders through KPP Portal for appointment of Architectural Engineering Firm (AEF) for the work of – Proposed Construction of Housing scheme in an extent of 40A-06 G at Chunchunkuppe Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk Bengaluru Urban District.

Last date for submission of bid is on 07.04.2025 upto 4.00 PM

Karnataka Housing Board invites tender from the eligible Pre qualified contractors & willing to Pre qualify in Karnataka Housing Board through Karnataka public procurement portal for below mentioned work.

Construction of "Prajasoudha" Taluk Adalitha Kendra at Rattihalli Taluk, Haveri District. **Work Indent No:** Tender Reference Number: KHB/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT 547 & IFT No.307/2024-25 Date: 21.03.2025**. Amount put to tender**: **Rs.6,49,69,399/-.**

Last date for submission of bid is on 21.04.2025 upto 4.00 PM

For further information, contact below mentioned office address: Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru Telephone No. 080-22273511/ 080-22100077 website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/CP/5861/AKAR/2024-25
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Joint Director (Animal Husbandry), N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002

No.: BBMP/2024-25/IND0126 **Date: 21.03.2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike invites short term tender for the supply, installation of community dog/street dog feeding spot, Display boards/signage boards to Eight Zones of BBMP.

Following is the events of tender process: (1) Tender Reference No.: **BBMP/2024-25/IND0126. (2)** Date of Commencement of download of tender document from Karnataka Public Procurement website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**:**21.03.2025**onwards. **(3)**Date, time & Venue of Pre-bid meeting: **24.03.2025** at **12:30 p.m.** at the following venue: Office of the Joint Director, Animal Husbandry, Head Office, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Bengaluru. **(4)** Last date and time for uploading online queries in Karnataka Public Procurement portal: **24.03.2025, 5:00 p.m. (5)** Last date and time for uploading of eTender in Karnataka Public Procurement portal: **29.03.2025** upto **5:00 p.m. (6)** Date and time of online opening of Technical bids in Karnataka Public Procurement portal: **01.04.2025, 11:00 a.m. (7)** Date and time of demonstration: **Shall be intimated after technical bid opening. (8)** Address for Communication: Office of the Joint Director, Animal Husbandry, Heard Office, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahangara Palike, Bengaluru. Email: jointdirector01@gmail.com, Contact: 9480685653.

Tender documents may be downloaded from the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sd/- Joint Director (Animal Husbandry), BBMP

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer (QA/QC-East), Room no.101, Annex-3 building, BBMP N R Square, Bangalore-02

Tend No: EE(QA/QC)/East/TEND/89/24-25 (Call-2) Date: 21.03.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System)
(Only through GOK KPP Portal) (CALL-2)

(Through GOK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

The Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Quality Assurance/Quality Control division invites Request for Proposal from interested persons/firms those who have done similar type of work for Consultancy Services for Project Management including Supervision, Quality control (PMC) for the below work through KPP Portal by the Executive Engineer (QA/QC-East).

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1.	Providing PMC Services including Supervision, Quality control for "Development of Basket Ball Court at Indiranagar and Domlur in East Zone". Project Cost **: Rs. 625.65 Lakhs, EMD : Rs. 13,000/-.**

Calendar of Events: (1) 1 Tender Document may be downloaded : through KPP-portal from : **25.03.2025 (2)** Pre-bid Meeting : **28.03.2025 at 11.30 AM** Office of the Executive Engineer(QA/QC) R.no.101. Annex-3 building, BBMP N R Square, Bangalore-560002 **(3)** Last Date & Time for receipt of: Tenders : **04.04.2025 up to 4:00 PM (4)** Opening of Technical bid : **05.04.2025 at 4:30 PM**

Sd/- Executive Engineer (QA/QC-East)

BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Traffic Commercial Department, 2nd Floor, Shantinagar TTMC, K.H.Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru - 560 027.

No.: BMTC/CO/TR/COM1726/5027/2024-25 Date: 21.03.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION No. 35/2024-25
(Through e-Procurement Platform)

Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation invites bids from the interested Persons/Agency for **DBID (Digital Bus Information Display)** for displaying Advertisement at various Bus Stands & TTMCs through e-procurement platform.

Date of Pre-Bid meeting	**25.03.2025 at 11:30 hrs.**	**Place**: Mini Meeting Hall 4th Floor, Central Office, BMTC, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru.
Last date & time for submission of bids	**21.04.2025 up to 17:00 hrs.**	
Date & time for opening the Technical bids	**24.04.2025 at 11:30 hrs.**	
Opening of Financial bids is on	**To be Intimated later**	

For further details on license fees, EMD & other conditions log on to: **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** & Contact no: **080-46010000, 080-68948777; 080-22483777** or **7760997519, 7760991222 & 7760991026.** E-mail: **ctmc@mybmtc.com.**

Sd/- Chief Traffic Manager (Com) (Tender inviting Authority)

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT DIVISION, BELAGAVI.
PH NO.0831-2463850 / FAX NO.0831-2423008

No.EE /MI&GWDDD/BGM/TND/AE/2024-25/1654 Date:20-03-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (KW-4)

As per KTTP Act-2000 and recent Amendments the Executive Engineer Minor Irrigation & Ground Water Development Department Division Belagavi has invited the Turnkey tender through KPPP (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) of Belagavi Sub Divisions Estimate Amount put to tender Rs.5034.00 Lakh. 1. Date of Pre-tender meeting: 02-04-2025 at 11.00 AM, 2.Tender Receipt Last Date:04-04-2025 Evening 4.00 PM, 3.Tender Opening Date:05-04-2025 Evening 4.30 PM (if possible), 4. For Tender Details office address: Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation & Ground Water Development Department Division Belagavi & www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1993/KSMCA/2024-25

Sd/-Executive Engineer, M.I & GWDD Division, Belagavi.

भारतीय खाद्य निगम FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA
REGIONAL OFFICE : No. 10, EAST END MAIN ROAD, 4th 'T' BLOCK, JAYANAGAR, BENGALURU - 560041

No. RO KA-32.0014.0/1/2025-CON-RO KA Date: 21.03.2025

ई-निविदा सूचना / e-Tender Notice

जी ई एम पोर्टल के माध्यम से "दो बोली प्रणाली" के तहत दो वर्ष हेतु सीडब्ल्यूसी मन्नागुड्डा/एसडब्ल्यूसी मंगलुरु/सीडब्ल्यूसी पनांबूर से पुराने मंगलुरु बंदरगाह तक खाद्यान्न आदि के परिवहन और यूटी लक्षद्वीप के 10 द्वीपों (यानी अगाथी, अमिनी, बितरा, चेटलाट, कदमत, कल्पेनी, कावारत्ती, किल्टान, मिनिकॉय और एंड्रोथ) तक शिपमेंट और लोडिंग/अनलोइंग सहित 10 द्वीपों पर यूटी प्रशासन के गोदामों तक परिवहन के लिए नियमित मल्टी-मोडल अनुबंध (स्टीवेडोरिंग और एच एंड टी) बंदरगाहों पर संचालन और यूटी लक्षद्वीप के गैर-बर्थ सुविधा द्वीपों पर खुले समुद्र में संचालनके लिए ऑनलाइन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जा रही है। ऑनलाइन बोलियां **15.04.2025 को अपराह्न 02:00 बजे तक** प्रस्तुत की जानी हैं।

एनआईटी और निविदा प्रपत्र **"www.fci.gov.in"** और **"https://gem.gov.in"** पर उपलब्ध हैं। पंजीकरण, प्रशिक्षण और बोलियों को ऑनलाइन प्रस्तुत करने के लिए, निविदाकारों को **"https://gem.gov.in"** पर देखने का अनुरोध किया जाता है।

Online Tenders for regular Regular Multi-Modal Contract for Transportation of foodgrains etc. from CWC Mannagudda/SWC Mangaluru/CWC Panambur to Old Mangaluru port & Shipment to 10 islands of UT Lakshadweep (i.e Agathi, Amini, Bitra, Chetlat, Kadmat, Kalpeni, Kavaratti, Kiltan, Minicoy & Androth) and Transportation to UT Administration godowns at 10 islands including Loading/Unloading (stevedoring and H&T) operations at ports and open sea operations at non-berth facility islands of UT Lakshadweep for two years is invited under **"Two Bid System"** through GeM portal. Bid should be submitted online **within 2.00 PM on 15.04.2025.**

NIT and tender forms are available in **"www.fci.gov.in" &"https://gem.gov.in".** For registration, training and submitting bids online, tenderers are requested to visit **https://gem.gov.in.**

महाप्रबंधक (कर्नाटक)
GENERAL MANAGER (Karnataka)

THE HINDU GROUP
SPORTSTAR
DAY 01
INDIAN POSTER LEAGUE

1. Which highly followed football club, known for its all-white uniforms, is nicknamed 'Los Blancos'?
2. Which annual football award, presented by the French magazine France Football since 1956, is given to the best player of the previous season?
3. Which famous footballer was named after a U.S. President due to his father's admiration for him?

Scan QR code or visit **newsth.live/SSIPLPA** to take the quiz. Get all three answers right and unlock a legendary Sportstar poster. **Top 3 winners* every day win gift vouchers.**
*T&C apply.

STATE HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF JHARKHAND
Government of Jharkhand

e-procurement Notice inviting BID

Ref No: SHAJ/Misc/NTPC/Badam Coal Mining/2020/225 Date: 20.03.2025

1. State Highways Authority of Jharkhand, Ranchi invites BID for **"Construction of two lane road from Badam Coal Block to BES Railway Siding (Total Length-Ch. 5.800 km. to 15.500 km. = 9.700 km.) in Block Barkagaon, district – Hazaribagh"** on deposit basis. The approximate cost of the work is Rs. 59.32 crore (Approx).
2. The interested bidders who have experience in execution of similar works and required technical & financial strength may obtain Bid document from e-tendering portal www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in from **25.03.2025 (15:00 hrs) to 22.04.2025 (15:00 hrs).**
   The complete BID Application shall be submitted online by **22.04.2025 (upto 15:00 hrs**) on e-tendering portal www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in. All the details regarding this BID will be available on the above mentioned website.
3. The contractors are required to submit non-refundable **Tender Fee** of Rs. 50,000/- (Rs. Fifty thousand only) & **Bid Security (EMD)** of Rs. 60.00 Lakh (Rs. Sixty Lakhs) only. Tender fees and Earnest money Deposit(EMD) shall be deposited online as per **Information Technology & E-Governance Department order no 120 dated 03.10.2023.** The undersigned will open the received bid online on **23.04.2025** at **15:30 hrs.**
4. ***No claim shall be entertained on account of disruption of internet services being used by bidders. Bidders are advised to upload their bids well in advance to avoid last minute technical snag.***

Sd/-
Member (Technical)
State Highways Authority of Jharkhand, Ranchi
Deen Dayal Nagar
(Near Office of Executive Engineer, NH Division, Ranchi)
Booty Road, Ranchi-834008. Ph.: 0651-2361306,
E-mail: membertechnical.shaj3@gmail.com

PR 348905 State Highway Authority of Jharkhand(24-25).D

रजिस्ट्री सं. डी .एल. -33004/99 REGD. NO. D.L.-33004/99

भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

सी.जी.-डी.एल.-अ - 18022025-261123
CG-DL-E- 18022025-261123
असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY
भाग II-खण्ड 3-उप-खण्ड (ii)
PART II-Section 3-Sub-section (ii)
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं : 839] नई दिल्ली, सोमवार, फरवरी 17, 2025/माघ 28,1946
No. 839] NEW DELHI, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2025/MAGHA 28, 1946

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
NOTIFICATION
New Delhi, the 17 February 2025

S.O 843 (E) In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (widening/two lane with paved shoulder/four laning etc.,), maintenance, management and operation of Greenfield stand alone bypass to Tumkur city (phase-1) with take-off point at existing km 55+050 of NH 48 near Nandihalli village connecting NH206 at Mallasandra at kilometre 12+300 (starting point of Tumkur-Shimoga Section) and terminates at km 26+130 at Perumanahalli village in the State of KARNATAKA hereby declares its intention to acquire such land.

Any person interested in the said land may, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, object to the use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under sub-section(1) of section 3C of the said Act.

Every such objection shall be made to the Competent Authority, namely, The Special Land Acquisition Officer and Competent Authority Tumkur, (Address: Bettashri complex,1st floor 5th cross, 60ft road, sapthagiri extension. Tumkur-572102) in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the Competent Authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the Competent Authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the Competent Authority under sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall be final.

The land plans and other details of the land to be acquired under this notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the Competent Authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling within the alignment of Greenfield standalone bypass to Tumkur city (phase-1) with take-off point at existing km55+050of NH 48 near Nandihalli village connecting NH 206 at Mallasandra at kilometre 12+300 (starting point of Tumkur-Shimoga section) and terminates at km 26+130 at Perumanahalli village.

Scan for Notification in English & Hindi

District: Bangalore Rural
Publication date 17.02.2025
https://egazette.gov.in/
https://morth.gov.in/...
https://bhoomirashi.gov.in/

Scan for Notification in Kannada (Translated from English Notification)

[File No. NHAI/PIU-TMK/TMK Bypass/3a notification/2021-22/3A]
ABHAY JAIN, Director

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)

ARM-1 Branch, 2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower, M.G. Road, Bengaluru-560001. Phone: 080-25310066, E-Mail – cb2366@canaranbank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Canara Bank** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **09.04.2025 at 10:30 AM to 11:00 AM,** for recovery of **₹.196617441 57.63** as on **20.03.2025** with further interest and cost there on due to the **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank** from **(1) M/s SSJV Projects Private limited,** Terrace Floor, "Vainatheya" No.64, 1st Main, S T Bed, Koramangala, Bangalore-560034, **(2) Mrs. Harini M Shetty** W/o N Manohar Shetty, **Director, M/s SSJV Projects Private Limited, (3) Sri. N Manohar Shetty** S/o Late Narayan Shetty, **Director, M/s SSJV Projects Private Limited, Both are residing at:** No.861, 13th Main, 3rd Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560034, **(4) M/s Dronagiri Farms Private Limited,** Flat No.303, Sri Ramana Enclave, Madhura Nagar, S R Nagar Post, Hyderabad-500038, **(5) M/s Mandaragiri Greenfields private Limited,** Flat No.102, Sri Ramana Enclave, Madhuranagar, S.R Nagar Post, Hyderabad-500038, **(6) M/s Ghataprabha Agro-Farms Private Limited,** Flat No.3892, HMT Hills, 2nd venture, Opp to JNTU College, Kukatpally, Hyderabad-500072.
The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **08.04.2025, 5.00 pm.**

Description of the immovable assets: 1) M/s.Dronogiri Agro Farms Private Limited : Kove and Javali Village of Mudigere Taluk, Chikmagalur District. **(₹. In crores)**

Sl.No.	Survey No.	Extent of property Acres	Extent of property Guntas	Boundaries	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Incremental Value at Bid
1	282/P1	27 02	33 00	As per sketch	9.13	0.91	0.10
2	282/P2	23	22	As per sketch			
3	206	20	00	As per sketch			
	TOTAL ACRES	**73**	**15**				

Building measuring approximately 6,178 sq.ft.

2) M/s .Mandaragiri Greenfield Private Limited: Kove and Javali Village of Mudigere Taluk, Chikmagalur District. **(₹. In crores)**

Sl.No.	Survey No.	Extent of property Acres	Extent of property Guntas	Boundaries	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Incremental Value at Bid
1	205/P2	07	08	As per sketch	3.40	0.34	0.10
2	282/P3	13 01	33 20	As per sketch			
3	282/P3	05	06	As per sketch			
	TOTAL ACRES	**27**	**27**				

Building measuring approximately 285 sq.ft.

3) M/s.Ghataprabha Agro Farms Private Limited: Kove and Javali Village of Mudigere Taluk, Chikmagalur District. **(₹. In crores)**

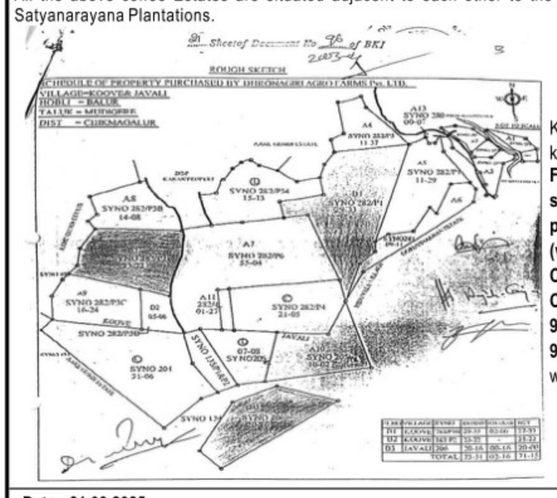
Sl.No.	Survey No.	Extent of property Acres	Extent of property Guntas	Boundaries	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Incremental Value at Bid
1	282/P4	18 03	05 00	As per sketch	6.53	0.65	0.10
2	204	30 00	27 19	As per sketch			
	TOTAL ACRES	**52**	**11**				

Building measuring approximately 12,825 sq.ft.

4) Smt Harini Shetty: Kove and Javali Village of Mudigere Taluk, Chikmagalur District. **(₹. In crores)**

Sl.No.	Survey No.	Extent of property Acres	Extent of property Guntas	Boundaries	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Incremental Value at Bid
1	276/P2	02	00	As per sketch	19.23	1.92	0.10
2	277	00	14	As per sketch			
3	286	02	07	As per sketch			
4	287	01	00	As per sketch			
5	279	03 00	34 21	As per sketch			
6	282/P5	10 01	30 07	As per sketch			
7	282/P1	10 01	29 00	As per sketch			
8	281	08 00	39 12	As per sketch			
9	282/P6	50 05	04 00	As per sketch			
10	282/P3	27 03	10 20	As per sketch			
11	205/P1	17 00	30 12	As per sketch			
12	282/P4	01	27	As per sketch			
13	280	00	07	As per sketch			
14	135/P1	02 00	20 03	As per sketch			
15	135/P2	02 00	20 03	As per sketch			
	TOTAL ACRES	**153**	**29**		**38.29**	**3.82**	**0.40**

Building measuring approximately 14,853 sq.ft.
All the above coffee Estates are situated adjacent to each other to the extent of 307.18 acres and now known as Satyanarayana Plantations.



Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or may contact Chief Manager, ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Mob. No. 08025310066, 9627872626, 7483935007, 9538406090 and 9598559920 during office hours on any working day.

Date : 21.03.2025
Place: Bengaluru
Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

State govt. to hold Cauvery Aarti at KRS during Dasara

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Cauvery Aarti at Sankey Tank in Bengaluru on Friday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar have announced plans to hold a grand Cauvery Aarti at the Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS) during Dasara, emphasising the cultural and ecological significance of the river. A dedicated committee has been formed to plan the event, which aims to blend tradition with a strong message on water conservation.

The announcement came during the city's first-ever Cauvery Aarti at Sankey Tank on Friday, where thousands gathered for a unique ceremony featuring a floating stage, vibrant lighting, cultural performances, and vedic chants. Mr. Shivakumar, who earlier performed rituals at Talakaveri, poured the Cauvery water into the tank as a symbolic gesture of reverence.

Mr. Shivakumar said, "We are planning to hold Cauvery Arati at KRS during the Dasara event this year. I have formed a committee to come up with a plan to hold this mega event."

The ceremony was a vibrant affair, featuring a grand procession, a traditional puja, an elaborate lighting display, a laser show, and a live orchestra. Popular artists, including Ananya Bhat and Raghu Dixit, captivated attendees with their performances.

Marking the occasion ahead of World Water Day (March 22), the event was organised by the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), the Water Resources Department, and the Minor Irrigation Department. Participants took a mass pledge to conserve water, with the Deputy Chief Minister stressing the urgent need for sustainable water management in the face of drought conditions.

Highlighting the State's efforts, Mr. Shivakumar noted that the Cauvery Phase 5 project is supplying water to 110 villages, ensuring the city's drinking water needs are met.

BBMP issues 3,000 provisional new khatas to property owners

A total of 2.87 lakh applications were received for securing the digital document, according to the civic body

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has issued around 3,000 provisional new khatas to the property owners in the city. The facility to obtain new khata on a dedicated website (https://bbmp.karnataka.gov.in/newkhata) was launched on January 13.

The BBMP also issued 2.71 lakh e-khatas to property owners till March 19. According to the data shared by the civic body, a total of 2.87 lakh applications were received for securing the digital document. The BBMP has digitised 23 lakh property records for the purpose of issuing e-khata. E-khatas are issued to owners who already have manual khata and new khatas are given to owners without manual records.

The facility to obtain new khata on a dedicated website was launched by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike on January 13. SUDHAKARA JAIN

BBMP Special Commissioner (Revenue), Munish Moudgil told *The Hindu* that nearly 3,000 people applied for new khata and all have secured provisional khatas.

"We are now instantly issuing provisional khata to the applicants and later carry out verification of documents and properties physically before issuing the final khata. The verification will ensure transparency in ownership, keeping away fraudsters and also avoid issuance of khata to those already having e-khata." The property owners have to pay property tax from the date of the registration of the property to secure the new khata."

A BBMP official says the civic body is now focused on property tax collection till March end and is planning a 5% rebate for those securing e-khata before July 31

"About 80% of the owners who have applied for the document have been paying tax despite not having a manual document. This means the properties are under the tax net. The rest have to pay the tax," Mr. Moudgil said further.

There are roughly about 5 lakh such properties in the city. However, the BBMP does not have a database on the quantum of such properties in the tax net. This system will enable the revenue department to gather data on properties complying with the tax and those that have failed.

Tax payment

Also, as tax payment is mandatory for new khata, the system will boost the revenue. The BBMP this fiscal year collected ₹4,604 crore tax and reached 88.36% of the total target. The BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath recently directed the officials to achieve the stipulated target of ₹5,210 crore.

Another BBMP official said the civic body is now focussed on property tax collection till March end. The issuance of e-khata and new khata will be expedited after April 1. The BBMP is also planning a 5% rebate for those securing e-khata before July 31.

Team will be set up to prevent pollution in Cauvery: DKS

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has said the State government will constitute a team to prevent pollution of the Cauvery and encroachment on the river banks.

He spoke after offering prayers at Talacauvery, the birthplace of Cauvery, near Bhagamandala in Kodagu district on Friday.

Responding to queries on the increase in river pollution, Mr. Shivakumar said the government would do whatever was necessary to conserve "this land, water, history, and heritage".

Christ's Alumni Foundation Chapter in Melbourne

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Christ (Deemed to be University), will launch the Alumni Foundation Chapter in Melbourne, Australia, on April 12. This initiative aims to strengthen alumni connections, and create opportunities for professional and academic growth. Johny Joseph, Registrar - Academics at the university, will address the alumni community. The event will bring together alumni from across Australia, including Sydney, Adelaide, Canberra, Brisbane, and Perth. For details and RSVP, interested individuals can email alumni.australia@christuniversity.in.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, LOUIS Steven Samuel Steven, S/o Steven Louis Alloysious, r/at 32/2, 100 Feet Road, Netaji Nagar, Jalahalli Cross, T D Halli, Bengaluru 560057 have changed my name as Louis Steven Samuel Steve vide affidavit dtd 18.03.2025 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, Bluru

I, LAKSHMI P, W/o Surya, R/at No.583, Nagayanapalya Slum, 3rd cross, Nagayanapalya, M S nagar Post, Bengaluru- 560033 have changed my name to Lakshmi vide Affidavit dated 07.03.2025 sworn before Notary Uday Kumar.K, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **RUGMINI K,** W/o. late Rama Varier Anantha Varrier, resident of #190, Sreeniketan, Officer's Model Colony, Dasarahalli PO, Bengaluru 560057, declare that the names **RUGMINI VARASIAR K, RUGMINI K, RUGHMINI** and **RUGMINI KIDANGOOR** are one and the same person and my true and correct name is **RUGMINI K** and my husband's true and correct name is **RAMA VARIER ANANTHA VARRIER** vide Affidavit Dated: 17/03/2025, before Notary **N.NARAYANASWAMY,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

We, **1) L. Ramprasad** S/o K. Lakshmana Rao, age 69 years, and **2) N. Revathy,** W/o L. Ramprasad, age 64 years, both R/at Site No.40, Railwaymen Layout, Rachenahalli Village, Thanisandra, Bengaluru-560 077 do hereby declare that we have changed our daughter's name from **R. SUBASHREE** to **HARINI RAMPRASAD**, henceforth she shall be known and called as **HARINI RAMPRASAD** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 21-03-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **K.V. BACHI REDDY** at Bangalore.

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For any assistance please contact our customer service support @ 18602664111, 18003099711, 18001039711 or homeloans@religare.com.

Sd/-, Authorised Officer,
Religare Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited
Date : 22-03-2025, Place : New Delhi

GETTY IMAGES

‘I saw the madness and crazy atmosphere of the IPL. I didn’t expect to be part of something like that’

Nat Sciver-Brunt talks about winning two WPL titles with Mumbai Indians, the evolution of the women’s game during her playing career, the risks and rewards of facing wife Katherine’s bowling, her best moments in cricket and the toughest players she has come up against

INTERVIEW

Nat Sciver-Brunt

P.K. Ajith Kumar

Nat Sciver-Brunt was in fabulous form at the WPL. She rattled up scores of 80 n.o., 57, 42, 75 n.o., 18, 37, 38, 69, 77 and 30. And she also picked up 12 wickets to play a big role – like she did in 2023 – in Mumbai Indians’ triumph in the world’s biggest women’s cricket league. The thing with Sciver-Brunt is that she gets into fabulous form often. More often than most cricketers. Little wonder she is already one of the all-time greats. Excerpts from an interview Sciver-Brunt gave *The Hindu*:

In the WPL’s first edition, you were the player-of-the-match in the eliminator and the final. You may have been reminded of that, the way you performed this season, too.

I have probably surprised myself, to be honest. I have played a lot of cricket in the last few months, not all of that has been as successful as it has been here. So yeah, it’s really nice to be able to help contribute to some wins for Mumbai. Winning the first edition was special. I guess everyone’s skills were in a great place. So if one person wasn’t able to perform on that day, the next person would. I peaked at the right time for that tournament, which was really special.

> I started playing cricket when we weren’t paid and I played in the first WBBL where I spent all of my money quickly. Getting picked for the WPL was a very special moment for me and my family

How did it feel when you were picked by MI in the first season?

That was pretty mad actually. We were playing a World Cup match whilst the auction was happening. So in our team, some people found out before the game, some people found out after the game. So that whole day was a bit surreal really. And yeah, finding out that I had been bought by Mumbai Indians was a really special moment.

Did you do some number crunching, converting ₹3.2 crore into British pounds?

Yes, I looked at the numbers.

And were you impressed?

Very impressed. I started playing cricket when we weren’t paid and I played in the first WBBL where I spent all of my money quickly. Getting picked for the WPL was a very special moment for me and my family. And we are really grateful for that. And for women’s cricket to be heading in that direction is really, really special. I obviously watched the IPL before the WPL came along and saw the madness, the big scores and crazy atmospheres. I didn’t expect to be part of something like that. My wife Katherine [Sciver-Brunt] has been a big supporter of RCB.

How do you find being part of MI?

They are a great franchise. They obviously want to win and want to do things really well in terms of the cricket, but also you get looked after really well. And you know, supporters like my dad and Katherine came out to support me. They also got really well looked after. So it is a special franchise to be part of. And we have created a great group, between the players and the coaching staff.

How do you think the WPL is impacting the women’s game globally?

Being able to perform under huge pressure is a real positive for young girls growing up, aspiring to want to play for India or for their countries. To be able to perform in that kind of pressure is a very difficult thing to do. It is also a great learning curve for joining an international team.

You have been playing at the top level for more than a decade. How much has the women’s game changed over the years?

It has changed massively, in the way that we play, the scores that we want to achieve and can achieve. And then the media attention around the game. The massive attention on us brings positive and negative things.

Recently, you became the first woman to make 50-plus scores in six successive Tests. But you have played only 12 Tests since your debut in 2014, as women rarely get to play Tests these days.

There is obviously a scheduling problem with playing Test matches, right? So I guess that sort of thing would have to be worked out. But I am glad we get to play at least the multi-format series, like the one against India. I know a lot of countries are really desperate to play Tests.

> Katherine is going to try to take your off-stump out or take your head off. With me and her, we never wanted to let the other one in. She prepared me for facing some really hard bowlers

How do you look back at winning the 2017 World Cup at home?

That was a special tournament, really. Everything sort of fell into line. We probably didn’t have the greatest of starts playing against India and coming off the pitch wondering what happened. That tournament sort of kick-started another level of our professionalism, I think. Just for it to be at home, and it was like the stars aligned, really. And to end with an amazing match at Lord’s in front of a big crowd.

England beat India in the final.

That final, you know, sticks in a lot of people’s minds, like a lot of the girls who are young in the England side now remember that game and being inspired by that.

Did you watch Harmanpreet Kaur’s brilliant knock in the semifinal against Australia? That changed women’s cricket here in India.

l definitely watched some highlights. While the match was on, we must have been training or something like that. When India and Australia come up against each other, it is going to be a big game. So we were keeping one eye on the score. Harman whacked it absolutely everywhere, didn’t she?

Now she is your captain at Mumbai Indians.

Harman is always open to that communication with us all, and wants to learn from those experiences that are on the bench. She has got a switch that she can flick at any time, really. She can just accelerate things with the bat like I haven’t really seen anyone else do.

The hardest batter you have bowled to?

Alyssa Healy. When she is on, it is extremely difficult to bowl to her. The same with Harman, too, to be fair. There are some people that just can, whatever delivery you bowl, it is as if they were waiting for that delivery.

The toughest bowler you have faced?

Katherine Brunt. She is going to try to take your off-stump out or take your head off. With me and her, we never wanted to let the other one in. She prepared me for facing some really hard bowlers. Now it is not easy facing someone like Amelia Kerr. And Jhulan Goswami was also extremely difficult for a batter. She told me she has the photo of her getting me out. What she said was, ‘You are on my wall’. And the story unfolded as to why I was on the wall. She was such a hard bowler to face. And she never missed a trick, did she?

Your favourite cricketers, male and female?

When I was younger, I really liked Freddie Flintoff. It is hard to pick one name among women as I have played a lot of franchise cricket with some of them, like Meg Lanning and Harman. I have played a lot of cricket against Australia and wondered how I could bring the sort of performances that Lanning did.

GAME THEORY

The WPL’s finest: stat leaders after three seasons

With the Women’s Premier League’s 2025 season in the books, it’s time to take a look at the players who top the batting, bowling and wicketkeeping charts in the tournament’s three-year history

NAT SCIVER-BRUNT

HAYLEY MATTHEWS

MARIZANNE KAPP

SHAFALI VERMA

RICHA GHOSH

HIGHEST STRIKE-RATE (MIN: 500 BALLS FACED)

Player	Team	Inns	Runs	Strike-rate
Shafali Verma	DC	27	865	**162.59**
Harmanpreet Kaur	MI	26	851	**143.50**
Nat Sciver-Brunt	MI	29	1027	**141.85**
Ellyse Perry	RCB	25	972	**132.96**
Smriti Mandhana	RCB	26	646	**128.68**

MOST WICKETS

Player	Team	Inns	Wkts	Ave
Hayley Matthews	MI	29	**41**	17.56
Amelia Kerr	MI	29	**40**	17.90
Sophie Ecclestone	UPW	25	**36**	18.38
Jess Jonassen	DC	24	**33**	20.75
Nat Sciver-Brunt	MI	29	**32**	22.28

LOWEST ECONOMY RATE (MIN: 50 OVERS BOWLED)

Player	Team	Overs	Runs concd.	Econ
Marizanne Kapp	DC	93	548	**5.89**
Sophie Ecclestone	UPW	99	662	**6.68**
Shabnim Ismail	MI/ UPW	78.3	536	**6.82**
Shikha Pandey	DC	100	696	**6.96**
Hayley Matthews	MI	99.2	720	**7.24**

MOST RUNS

Player	Team	Inns	Runs	Ave
Nat Sciver-Brunt	MI	29	**1,027**	46.68
Ellyse Perry	RCB	25	**972**	64.80
Meg Lanning	DC	27	**952**	39.66
Shafali Verma	DC	27	**865**	36.04
Harmanpreet Kaur	MI	26	**851**	40.52

MOST WICKETKEEPING DISMISSALS

Player	Team	Inns	Ct/St	Dis-missals
Richa Ghosh	RCB	26	14/16	**30**
Yastika Bhatia	MI	28	12/17	**29**
Taniya Bhatia	DC	18	7/8	**15**
Sarah Bryce	DC	9	6/4	**10**
Alyssa Healy	UPW	17	3/6	**9**

SOURCE: ESPNCRICINFO.COM

PICTURE THIS

GETTY IMAGES

Double jeopardy

Hideki Matsuyama confronts the bane of every golfer’s life at the recent Arnold Palmer Invitational: a hazard.

It is an area on a course that provides a challenging obstacle between the teeing ground and the hole. It can be natural or man-made. A hazard typically takes two forms: pools of water, such as streams and ponds, which were referred to as water hazards, but are now called penalty areas; sand-filled shallow pits — often designed with a raised lip — known as bunkers.

Penalty areas and bunkers aren’t incorporated merely to make golfers quake with anxiety; they also add to the course’s aesthetics, although it isn’t commonly known whether a player forced to navigate the perils of one can truly appreciate its beauty. Special rules govern balls that fall in a hazard — for instance, the club cannot touch the ground before the swing in a bunker.

There isn’t space for a comprehensive explainer, but here’s a rough rule of thumb: the ball can be played as it lies in the hazard without penalty, but if it can’t, it may be hit from another location with a one-stroke penalty.

Bandh unlikely to have much impact

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State-wide bandh called by Kannada Okkoota on Saturday in protest against the recent assault on a KSRTC driver in Maharashtra, is not expected to significantly disrupt life in the city. While some transport services may experience interruptions, essential services and routine activities are expected to proceed normally.

Kannada Okkoota, a coalition of various Kannada organisations, announced the shutdown on February 28, setting the timing from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. However, the impact is expected to be minimal as several Kannada groups, including factions of the Karnataka Rakshana Vedike led by T.A. Narayana Gowda and Praveen Shetty, have chosen not to participate.

Buses, metro services

Officials have confirmed that Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation buses and Namma Metro services will run as usual. KSRTC services might face disruptions in some parts of the State, but officials have assured that overall operations will remain largely unaffected.

Autos, cabs

The availability of autorickshaws and cabs may be inconsistent, as drivers affiliated with Ola, Uber, and some autorickshaw unions have expressed their support for the bandh. However, major unions have only extended moral backing. Employee associations of both KSRTC and BMTC have endorsed the protest but will continue operations.

The Karnataka State Hotel Association said eateries will be open, though some malls, multiplexes, and restaurants might close. Essential services, including hospitals, pharmacies, and other medical establishments, will function without interruptions.

City Deputy Commissioner Jagadeesha G. announced on Friday that schools and colleges will remain open on Saturday.

Metro services to start early tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has announced that metro services will start earlier than usual on Sunday in view of the Bidadi Half Marathon.

Trains from all four terminal stations will begin operations at 5 a.m. instead of the usual 7 a.m.

Additionally, metro services from Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Station Majestic towards Challaghatta will commence even earlier at 4 a.m. This move aims to help runners and spectators reach the event venue on time.

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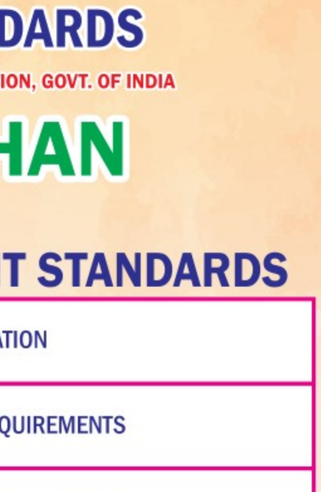

Date: 27 March 2025
Time: 10:30 am to 1 :30 pm

Venue: Conference Hall,
Bureau of Indian Standards,Bengaluru Branch
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Former Chief Justice of India

Special Guest
Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud
Former Chief Justice of India

Event Schedule

10:15 AM to 10:25 AM
Inauguration

10:25 AM to 10:30 AM
Welcome address by **Suresh Nambath,** Editor, The Hindu

10:30 AM to 10:45 AM
Opening remarks by **Dr. G.V. Selvam,** Vice-President, VIT

10:45 AM to 11:10 AM
Special address by Guest of Honour - **C. Aryama Sundaram,**
Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India

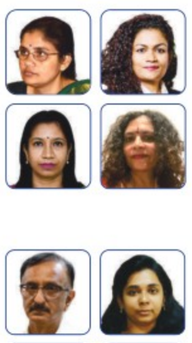
11:10 AM to 11:45 AM
Keynote address by **Hon'ble Justice N.V. Ramana,** Former Chief Justice of India

11:45 AM to 12:00 PM
BREAK

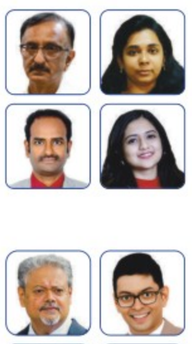
12:00 PM to 1:10 PM
'A Korero with **Hon'ble Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud,** Former Chief Justice of India.'
Steered by **Mohamed Imranullah S.,** Deputy Editor, The Hindu

1:10 PM to 2:00 PM
LUNCH BREAK

2:00 PM to 2:50 PM
The Intersection of Law & Tech: AI, Privacy and Ethics
Srinath Sridevan, Senior Advocate, High Court of Madras
Suhrith Parthasarathy, Advocate, High Court of Madras
Prof. (Dr.) Rabbiraj C, Professor of Law & Dean, VIT School of Law, VIT Chennai
in conversation with **Nagaraj Nagabushanam,**
Vice President Data & Analytics & Designated AI Officer, The Hindu Group



2:50 PM to 3:40 PM
The Role of Law in a Changing Society
D. Nagasaila, Advocate, High Court of Madras
Shabnam Banu, Advocate, High Court of Madras
Prof. (Dr.) E. Prema, Professor of Law & Assistant Dean, VIT School of Law, VIT Chennai
in conversation with **Ramya Kannan,** Chief of Bureau - Tamil Nadu, The Hindu



3:40 PM to 4:30 PM
Corporate Law & Business Ethics - Navigating Legal Complexities
N.L. Rajah, Senior Advocate, High Court of Madras
Deepika Murali, Advocate, High Court of Madras
Prof. (Dr.) R. Kesavamoorthy, Professor of Law, VIT School of Law, VIT Chennai
in conversation with **Aaratrika Bhaumik,** Senior Sub Editor, The Hindu

4:30 PM to 5:20 PM
Future of Legal Education in India
P.R. Raman, Senior Advocate, High Court of Madras
Anirudh Krishnan, Advocate & Founder, AK Law Chambers
Prof. (Dr.) P.R.L. Rajavenkatesan, Professor of Law, VIT School of Law, VIT Chennai
in conversation with **Aaratrika Bhaumik,** Senior Sub Editor, The Hindu

5:20 PM to 5:30 PM
BREAK

5:30 PM to 6:00 PM
Valedictory address
by **AR.L. Sundaresan,** Additional Solicitor General, High Court of Madras

Entry by invite only

M.B. Patil proposes land near KIA for mega jewellery park

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Industries Minister M.B. Patil has proposed to allocate land near Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) for a dedicated mega jewellery park.

Addressing industry players at IIJS Tritiya 2025, a B2B jewellery expo in the city on Friday, the minister said, ''I am pleased to propose allocating land near Bengaluru's international airport for a dedicated mega Jewellery Park. This strategic location, combined with Karnataka's progressive policies and world-class infrastructure, aims to create a vibrant hub for the gem and jewellery industry." He said the State was proud to host the expo, which showcased the country's exceptional craftsmanship in the jewellery sector. ''We remain committed to creating a supportive ecosystem and I invite the industry to explore the opportunities Karnataka offers," he said.

Kirit Bhansali, Chairman, Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council said, "Despite global challenges like geopolitical uncertainties and tariff issues, India's gem and jewellery sector has shown remarkable resilience. With expanding FTAs and proactive government support, we're confident of reaching our ambitious export target of $70 billion by 2030."

Two held for stealing bikes

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Hanumanth Nagar police detained a person identified as Toufeeq Pasha, 24, from Shyamanna Gardens, for stealing a bike parked in front of an apartment in Srinagar on March 10.

During questioning, he confessed to stealing two more two-wheelers from the same area. He had parked all three stolen vehicles in an open space next to Kempegowda playground in the area, which the police have recovered and pegged its worth at ₹1 lakh.

In a similar case, police have arrested Marimuttu, 28, in J.P. Nagar recently. A questioning revealed that he had stolen another bike from Byatarayanapura police station limits which was also later recovered.

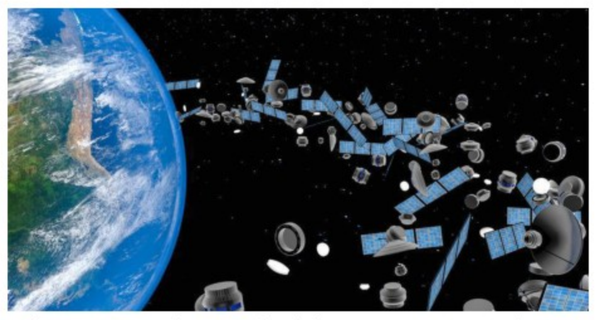
City firm ties up with Astroscale Japan for space debris removal

Collaboration also aims to drive satellite servicing, sustainable in-orbit mobility contributing to a cleaner space environment

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru-based space mobility company Bellatrix Aerospace and Astroscale Japan have signed a memorandum of understanding. The collaboration aims to drive active debris removal, satellite servicing, and sustainable in-orbit mobility, contributing to a cleaner and safer space environment.

"Bellatrix Aerospace is an emerging space company that has garnered attention from the Indian government. With its unique technologies and products, the company is expected not only to expand its market entry opportunities but also to create a complementary relationship with us," said Eddie Kato, President and Managing Director of Astroscale Japan. Astroscale Japan, a subsidiary of Astroscale Holdings Inc., is leading the charge in developing cutting-edge solutions for in-orbit servicing and space debris mitigation.



Bellatrix Aerospace has completed three space missions in the past year . ISTOCKPHOTO

The company offers a range of scalable services, including life extension, in-situ space situational awareness, end-of-life disposal, and active debris removal.

Since its first successful launch in March 2021, Astroscale has showcased advanced proximity and docking operations technologies through its ELSA-d and ADRAS-J missions. Its spacecraft have been selected for groundbreaking projects with major space agencies and organisations, including JAXA, the U.S. Space Force, the European Space Agency, the U.K. Space Agency, and Eutelsat OneWeb.Bellatrix Aerospace has completed three space missions in the past year, demonstrating its advanced capabilities in space operations.

SPORTS AUTHORITY OF ANDHRA PRADESH
IGMC STADIUM, LABBIPET, BANDAR ROAD, VIJAYAWADA

Tenders are hereby invited from reputed and experienced companies for the following tenders.
Tender ID: 792110. **Name of the work:** Procurement of consumable sports equipment and 853 T Shirts and Shorts to the athletes for 22 Khelo India Centre for New Districts in the State. **Bid Starting date:** 22.03.25. **Bid End date:** 04.04.25.
Tender documents are available on e-procurement platform tender.**apeprocurement.gov.in**. Tenders will be opened in the presence of company representatives who attend the evaluation.
For further details contact: **0866-2499699.**
DIPR 3630PP/CL, Dt: 21.03.2025 **Sd/- Vice Chairman & Managing Director**

Alliance Francaise de Bangalore
Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar,
Bangalore-560052, Tel: 9035162240.

ELECTION NOTICE TO AFB MEMBERS

Nomination Date	: 24-03-2025 to 30-03-2025
Scrutiny Date	: 31-03-2025
Withdrawal Date	: 01-04-2025
Election Date	: 06-04-2025

The election calendar of events is sent to you, through registered post, if not received treat this as Election notice and participate.
For further queries contact office.

Date : 21-03-2025
Place : Bangalore
Sd/-
Returning Officer

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, CHALLAKERE-577522
(Telephone & Fax No. 08195- 200094
E-mail : ka.challakere.cmc@gmail.com
No: CMCCLK/Tech/2024-25/LDF/CR 03/2024-25
Date: 21.03.2025

TENDER NOTICATION

The Municipal Commissioner, City Municipal Council, Challakere invites tenders in Two cover system using KW-4 document from Class-II and above PWD contractorsas detailed mentioned below: - 2024-25th Lake Development Fund (250.00 Lakhs):- **Description of work:- Development of Rajakaluve from Sujimalleshwara Nagar to Katappanahatti in Challakere City.**
INDENT No: DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT 37218
Estimated amount (Rs. in Lakhs):- 250.00
Amount Put to Tender (Rupees):- 2,07,35,367.00
EMD Amount (Rupees):- 3,11,031.00
Period (In month):- 11 Months
Class of Contractor:- Class-II & above PWD Contractor
Interested contractors shall register on the e-procurement platform to participate in this tender. Contractors can download the tender documents from the e-Procurement platform (www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in). Tenders shall be submitted electronically at www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in. EMD and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically.
Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:
(1) Last date and time for Tender Queries / Clarifications 04-04-2025 5.00 PM **(2)** Last Date and time receipt to tenders 11-04-2025 5.00 PM **(3)** Date and time for Opening of Technical Bid 12-04-2025 5.30 PM **(4)** Date and time for Opening of Financial Bid After Technical BidApproval
Any changes in the tender conditions and Postponement of calendar of events (if any) is only through e-Procurement portal and will not be published in any newspapers.
DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/738/2024-25
Sd/- Municipal Commissioner
City Municipal Council, Challakere.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DIVISION KOPPAL.
Phone No: 08539 – 222318 email : eepwdkpl2@gmail.com
IFT No. PWD:DK:DB:KW-1&4:2024-25/4649 Date: 20-03-2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)

The Executive Engineer, Public works Department Division Koppal invites tenders from the eligible tenderers as per standard bid documents KW-1&4 on http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Portal. Head of Account : 8443-Deposit Contribution/2024-25 & 3054-03-337-0-05-200 SH Maintenance (Non Plan)/2024-25. Two cover Tender procedure as per Rule 28 of the KTPP Act shall be followed. For more information the contractor can contact the under signed during office hours on Phone No. 08539–222318 and all informations regarding tenders can be had from website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. **Total 02 Works. Work Indent No: 19654** Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders **28-03-2025 Time 16.00,** Date and Time for opening of Technical Bid **29-03-2025 Time 16.30.** Date and Time for opening of Financial Bid **03-04-2025 Time 16.00. Work Indent No: 18761/CALL-2** Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders **28-03-2025 Time 16.00,** Date and Time for opening of Financial Bid **29-03-2025 Time 16.30.**Minimum & Estimate Maximum Amount **Rs. 10.00 Lakhs** & **Rs. 300.00 Lakhs** respectively. The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website address, EMD, Date & Time for Pre-bid meeting, Tender Queries/Clarification, & Other information as mentioned in KPPP Portal. Any changes either in tender date or any other condition tenderers can view in KPPP portal.
Sd/- EE PWD Division,Koppal.
DIPR/Koppal/897/DeshpandePublicity/2024-25

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
Syndicate Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

E-Auction Sale of Properties on 09.04.2025
Last date of EMD : 08.04.2025

ARM-1 Branch, 2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001. Ph: 080 25310066. E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described Immovable properties mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical/Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 09.04.2025 (10.00 AM to 10.30 AM),** through E-Auction underthe Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
For details with regard to E-Auction & digital signature please contact the service provider **M/s PSB Alliance (https://baanknet.com/) E-mail: support.ebkray@psballiance.com Helpdesk Number : 8291220220, Website: https://baanknet.com/**
The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **08.04.2025 - 5.00 pm (₹. in lakhs)**

Lot No	Name & Address of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor	Description of the immovable/movable assets:	Total Dues Possession Type	a. Reserve Price b. EMD c. Incremental Bid	Inspection date & time
1.	**(1) Sri Sapthagiri Agro**, Plot No. 3D & 133B, I & II phase KIADB Industrial Area, Antharasanahalli Tumkur-572106. **(2) Mrs. Vanitha Rani (Partner)** W /o Sridhar Babu K S Sapthagiri Nilaya 4th cross, Near Water Tank Vidyanagar Tumkur-572101 **(3) Mr. Sridhar Babu K S (Partner)** S /o Srinivas Shetty KS, Sapthagiri Nilaya 4th cross, Near Water Tank Vidyanagar Tumkur 572101. **Note: The person who wishes to bid for lot No. 1 has to invariably bid for lot 2 property also. Bid for lot No. 1 alone will not be accepted. However, bid for only lot No. 2 can be submitted.**	(I) Land situated at plot bearing No. 3-D, Sy. 21 & 23, measuring 50.80x136.40+132.7/2 meters totally measuring 6784 Sq.mtrs, situated at KIADB Industrial Area, 1st Phase, Antharasanahalli, Tumkur in the name of Sri Sapthagiri Agro Industry. (ii) Land and Building of 2 acres situated at the Industrial land bearing plot No. 133-B, KIADB Industrial Area, Antharasanahalli, Tumkur-572106. In the name of Sri Sapthagiri Agro Industry. **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 13.383357N Longitude- 77.099993E**	**Rs. 2100528676.23 as on 20.03.2025 with further interest and cost thereon. Physical Possession**	a) ₹. 1210.00 b) ₹. 121.00 c) ₹.1.00	**02.04.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM, with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer**
		Hypothecation of plant and machineries and Misc. Fixed Asset as such as Bunkers & Accessories, Electrical Equipment's. In the name of Sri Sapthagiri Agro Industry. **Coordinates of the property . Latitude- 13.383357N Longitude- 77.099993E**		a) ₹. 1179.00 b) ₹. 118.00 c) ₹.1.00	
2.	**(1) M/s Padmavathi Agro Exports, Rep by its partners**: **Mr. K K Naveen. Mr. T P Vikram,** Unit: Opp State ware House, B H Road Tumkur-572101, Also at: 5th Main, APMC Yard Batwadi, Tumkur-572106, **(2) Mr K K Naveen** S/o Mr K S Krishna Murthy, 448, Pete Beedi, Chikkanayakanahalli, Tumkur District-572214, **(3) Mr. T P Vikram** S/o Mr Bhadrachala Setty, Venkateshapura, Sira Gate, Tumkur 572101, **(4) Mr. Sridhar Babu K.S**. S/o Mr Srinivas Setty K S, No.101, 4th Cross, Sapthagiri Nilaya, Vidyanagara, Tumkur-572101, **(5) Mrs K.S Vanitha Rani** W/o Mr Sridhar Babu K.S, No.101, 4th Cross, Sapthagiri Nilaya Vidyanagara, Tumkur-572101.	Residential House property bearing Khata No.8731/1538, 8731B/1538B, New Corporation Khatha No.1731*b/1538/2791 PID No.25144 at Vidyanagara, Near Water Tank, Tumkur in the name of Vanitha Rani KS W/o K S Sridhar Babu. Total Extent of the plot 1500 Sq.ft **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 13.337000 Longitude- 77.124556**	**Rs. 559065441.98/- as on 20.03.2025 with further interest and cost thereon. Physical Possession**	a) ₹. 118.58 b) ₹. 11.86 c) ₹.1.00	**02.04.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM, with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer**
		Industrial Land site No.113-A-P3 in Sy.No.63 at Antharasanahalli Industrial Area, 2nd phase Thimlapura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Tumkur in the name of M/s Sapthagiri Agro Industry. In the name of M/s Padmavathi. Total Extent of the plot 32172 Sq.ft. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 13.383361 Longitude-77.100000**		a) ₹. 194.03 b) ₹. 19.40 c) ₹.1.00	

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.080-25310066, 9627872626,7483935007,9538406090 and 9598559920 during office hours on any working day.

Place: Bengaluru Date : 21.03.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer, Canara Bank**

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
Syndicate Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Head Office : Bangalore

E-AUCTION Sale of Properties on 09.04.2025
Last date of EMD : 08.04.2025

ARM – I Branch, 2nd Floor, No. 86, Spencers Tower, M.g. Road, Bangalore – 560001. Ph No. : 080 25310066. E-Mail – cb2366@canarabank.com

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described imovable propeties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical/Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM Branch-1,** Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **09.04.2025 at 10:30 AM to 11:00 AM,** through E-Auction under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002
For details with regard to E-Auction & digital signature please contact the service provider **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited, Helpdesk Number : 8291220220, Website: https://baanknet.com/**
The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **08.04.2025 5.00 pm.**

(Rs. in lacs)

Sl.No.	Name and address of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor	Description of the immovable assets	Total Dues Possession Type	a. Reserve Price b. EMD c. Incremental Bid	Inspection Date & Time
1.	**1. M/s Bangalore Consultants Contractors,** No. 14/14, 59th Cross, 5th Block, Bhashyam Circle, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore-560010. **2. Mr. Prakash K P,** No. 364A, 1st Floor, 5th Main, 2nd Block, 3rd Stage, Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore-560079. **3. Mrs. Latha Prakash W/o Prakash K P,** No. 364A, 1st Floor, 5th Main, 2nd Block, 3rd Stage, Basaveshwaranagar Bangalore-560079.	Flat No. 1, Ground floor, Balaji Enclave – 2, No. 120/204, 5th Main road, Ravi Kirloskar Layout, Chikkabidarakallu Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore – 560072 measuring 1500 Sft. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 13.0535297N Longitude- 77.4839286E**	**Rs. 9,87,18,325.73** as on **19.02.2025** with further interest and cost there on	a) ₹ 46.78 b) ₹ 4.68 c) ₹ 1.00	**02.04.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM.** with Prior Appointment with The Authorized Officer
		Flat No. 2, first floor, Balaji Enclave – 2, No. 120/204, 5th Main road, Ravi Kirloskar Layout, Chikkabidarakallu Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore – 560072 measuring 1500 Sft. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 13.0535297N Longitude- 77.4839286E**		a) ₹ 46.78 b) ₹ 4.68 c) ₹ 1.00	
		Flat No. 4, Third floor, Balaji Enclave – 2, No. 120/204, 5th Main road, Ravi Kirloskar Layout, Chikkabidarakallu Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore – 560072 measuring 1500 Sft. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 13.0535297N Longitude- 77.4839286E**		a) ₹ 46.78 b) ₹ 4.68 c) ₹ 1.00	
		All that piece and parcel of property bearing Flat No.401, 4th Floor, Balaji Enclave-3, on property bearing Municipal No. 34, PID No. 100-760-34, situated at RMV 2nd Stage, 4th Block, Sanjay Nagar, Bangalore-560094. Earlier BDA site no. 34, 4th Block, Lottegollahalli, 2nd stage, RMV, Bangalore-560094. Measuring 1700 Sq.ft, Super built up area including proportionate common areas and facilities with 500 Sq.ft of undivided share and one covered car parking area with all amenities, facilities and lefty the Basement. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 12.9085832N Longitude- 77.5504773E**		a) ₹ 119.64 b) ₹ 11.97 c) ₹ 1.00	
		TOTAL		259.98	
2.	**1.Mrs. Nikita Patil, W/o. Mr.Siddharta Patil,** H No.78, Swamy Vivekananda Layout, Sagar Road, Shimoga – 577 201, **also residing at** No.684, 5th Cross, North Block, Upkar Layout, Upkar Residency, Bangalore – 560 056, **2.Mr. Deepak C/o.Shankar Rao,** S-257, 13th Main, 4th Cross, BEL Layout, Bharath Nagar, Bangalore-560 091 **also residing at** No.36, 4th Cross, Income Tax Layout, BEL Layout, 2nd Stage, Bharat Nagar, Bengaluru-560 091.	Residential Flat bearing no.701, comprising of 3 BHK, in 7th floor of 'PRISTINE VARA' being built in property bearing Muncipal no. 123, situated at Infantry road, Muncipal ward no. 78 of Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru and in all approximately measuring 10397 Sq.Ft. out of 12059 Sq.Ft. and bounded by: East: Road, West: Private property, North: Infantry road and South: Private property out of which 450 sq.ft. of undivided share, right , title, interest and ownership having super built up area of 2500 Sq.Ft. and carpet area measuring 1665 sq.ft. and right to use common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common usage and one covered car parking space in basement bounded on: **East:** By Private property, **West:** By Private Property, **North:** Road, **South:** By Flat no. 702. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 12.980972 Longitude- 77.601889**	**Rs. 7,16,79,893.44** as on **19.03.2025** with further interest and cost there on	a) ₹ 294.75 b) ₹ 29.48 c) ₹ 1.00	**02.04.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM.** with Prior Appointment with The Authorized Officer
3.	**1. M/s Sierra Constructions (P) Ltd,** Rep by its managing Director No 187,1st Cross, 1st Main, Lower Palace Orchards Bengaluru – 560003. **2. M/s Tecsol Sierra Engineering & Constructions LLP,** Rep by its Managing Partner, **3. Smt K B Chikkathayamma W/o Late B S Channappa, 4. Sri S C Dhanashankar S/o Late B S Channappa 5. Mrs Kumari Bharathi W/o A C Dhanashakar Above 2,3,4 & 5 Address are at :** No 187,1st Cross, Ist Main, Lower Palace Orchards, Bengaluru – 560003. **6. Sri D Ranganna S/o D Narayanamurthy,** No. 63, 2nd Cross Gavipuram Extension Bengaluru – 560019, **7. Sri Raheja P R S/o Late J L Raheja,** No. 142, Embassy Heritage 8th Main Malleshwaram Bengaluru – 560055. **8. Sri . Sheshachalam A S/o Late A Venkata Rao,** No. 116,2nd Cross HAL III stage Bengaluru. **9. Smt N Shalini W/o Late AC Sudhakar** House No 1564, 29th Cross Banashankari II Stage Bengaluru – 560070. **10. Sri Raghupathi R S/o Late G Ramakrishnan,** No. 106/21"Sai Anugraha" 11th 'B' Cross, 11th Main Road, Malleshwaram Bengaluru 560003. **11. Ms. AS Kanikka D/o Late AC Sudhakar,** House No 1564, 29th Cross Banashankari II Stage Bengaluru – 560070. **12. Sri A S Shreyas S/o Late AC Sudhakar** House No 1564, 29th Cross Banashankari II Stage Bengaluru – 560070. **13 Smt A C Geetha D/o Late B S Channappa W/o M Nagaraju,** No 487, A & B Block peacock Street Mysuru – 570023. **14. Smt S C Sujatha S/o Late B S Channappa W/o AS Nagesh,** No 74, Gurukrua 13th Main Hanumanthanagar Bengaluru – 560050. **15. Smt SC Suneetha D/o Late B S Channappa W/o Dr. C Puttamadappa,** No 19-G1, Sierravillage Near B R Ambedkar Dental College Clive Road Cook Town Bengaluru – 560005. **16. Smt AC Lakshmi D/o Late BS Channappa W/o Dr Jayaprakash** No 1192,18th Main 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru - 560010.	All piece and parcel of the immovable residential flat bearing No G 106/B in B Block in the apartment named 'SIERRA SYLLABLE' situated at Sy No 213/2 CMC No. 149/A, 161, 162/A and 162/B Kodigehalli, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk in the name of Sierra Constructions having a super built up area of 1222 Sq ft and undivided share of 456 Sq ft with one car parking. **Owner of the property: M Anand Coordinates of the property Latitude- 13.0644564N Longitude- 77.5745634E**	**Rs. 29,93,96,746.57** as on **19.03.2025** plus further interest and cost thereon	a) ₹ 44.59 b) ₹ 4.46 c) ₹ 1.00	**02.04.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM.** with Prior Appointment with The Authorized Officer
		All piece and parcel of the immovable residential flat bearing No S 106/B in B Block in the apartment named 'SIERRA SYLLABLE' situated at Sy No 213/2 CMC No. 149/A, 161, 162/A and 162/B Kodigehalli, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk in the name of Sierra Constructions having a super built up area of 1222 Sq ft and undivided share of 456 Sq ft with one car parking. **Owner of the property: M Anand Coordinates of the property Latitude- 13.0644564N Longitude- 77.5745634E**		a) ₹ 44.59 b) ₹ 4.46 c) ₹ 1.00	

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.08025310066, 9627872626,7483935007,9538406090 and 9598559920 during office hours on any working day.

Place: Bangalore
Date : 21.03.2025
Sd/- Authorized Officer, Canara Bank

Kannada activists seek ban on Marathi film *'Follower'*

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Activist Rajkumar Topannanavar says the film misrepresents facts and tries to pit one linguistic community against another

Kannada activists have written to the State government seeking a ban on the Marathi film *'Follower'* alleging that it would disturb the law and order situation in Belagavi.

In a letter to the Police Commissioner, Rajkumar Topannanavar, activist, said that the film misrepresents facts and tries to pit one linguistic community against another. He said that the film could add to the division among Kannada and Marathi groups, provoke them and disturb peace. He also left a message on social media handles for his followers, expressing displeasure at the film's plot that revolves around the language and border issue in Belagavi.

Film director A.T. Raghu passes away

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A.T. Raghu

Kannada film director Apadanda T. Raghu, known as A.T. Raghu, passed away at his R.T. Nagar residence in Bengaluru on Thursday. He was 75. The filmmaker, known for his superhit 1994 action film *Mandyada Gandu,* was ailing from age-released issues for the last six years. Raghu, hailing from Bettathur village in Kodagu district. He is survived by wife Leela Raghu and children Bijoy Ganapathy and Binu Sachin.

Raghu started his journey in the film industry under the mentorship of producer-director B. Vittalacharya. He later assisted Y.R. Swamy, known for his collaborations with Rajkumar (*Bhakta Kanakadasa, Sipayi Ramu, Paropakari*).

Raghu debuted as a director with *Nyaya Neethi Dharma* in 1980. His *Mandyada Gandu,* which starred Srishanti, Meghana, Bank Janardhan and Vajramuni, is known for its hit songs. Ambareesh got his moniker 'Mandyada Gandu' thanks to the film's success. Upendra Kumar composed music for the movie. *Kadina Raja, Shankar-Sundar, Preethi* (1986), *Aasha* (1983) and *Inspector Kranti Kumar* were some the famous films directed by him. In another milestone in his career, A.T. Raghu worked with Rajinikanth in *Meri Adalat,* a remake of his film *Aasha.*

Man arrested for peddling drugs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Acting on a tip-off, Marathahalli police raided an empty plot of land behind a hotel in Marathahalli and arrested a man from Odisha identified as Durga Prasad, 29, who was allegedly peddling ganja.

His interrogation led the police to his rented accommodation in the area from where they recovered 10.10 kg of ganja worth ₹4.4 lakh.

According to the police, the accused had allegedly been buying ganja in large quantities from his contacts in Odisha and selling it for higher prices in the city. A probe is under way to ascertain the source of the drugs in Odisha.

From Page One

Speaker suspends 18 BJP MLAs for 6 months

The Opposition BJP-JD(S) combine criticised the suspension of MLAs and accused the Speaker of acting as an "agent of the ruling Congress". Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok argued that it was unjust to crack the whip against the MLAs who were "fighting to protect the honour of the House" and Mr. Rajanna, who was "helpless" after being targeted in a honey-trap attempt. "Instead of acting against the protesting MLAs, the Speaker should have initiated measures to act against those indulging in honey-trapping," Mr. Ashok contended.

BJP members continued their protest and again tore the legislature booklets and threw them at the Speaker. Some of them even tried to climb up the Speaker's podium while shouting slogans against him and the government. However, marshals prevented them from reaching the Speaker. The House was adjourned *sine die* amid the chaos.

Petition to Governor

Later the BJP members went to the Raj Bhavan and petitioned Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot in this regard.

Man held for cheating

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Halasuru Gate police arrested a salesman from Hisar district, Haryana in the second week of March for allegedly cheating a hardware company in S.P. Road, he worked for.

According to the police, the company had lodged a complaint against four salesmen who worked at the company till November last year accusing them of allegedly supplying welding rods worth ₹96 lakh to various customers in Bengaluru, Mandya and Channaptna districts, pocketing the money and fleeing. Following the complaint, the police served notices to the salesmen asking them to appear for questioning.

The accused reportedly confessed to the cheating. Police have recovered ₹11.24 lakh from him. Two other salesmen who were named in the complaint were found to be not involved. A probe is under way to track down the second accused in the case.

First day of SSLC exam gets off to a smooth start

KSEAB says no malpractice or untoward incident was reported

Students arrive at an exam centre in Kengeri off Mysuru Road in Bengaluru for the first annual exam of SSLC on Friday. K. MURALI KUMAR

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The first annual examination of SSLC (class 10) students commenced on a smooth note on Friday with attendance recorded at 98.06% across the State.

16,313 absentees

As many as 16,313 students were absent for the first language Kannada, Telugu, Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, Urdu, English and Sanskrit subjects.

As per an official release issued by Karnataka School Examination Assessment Board (KSEAB), there was no malpractice reported from any of the centres across the State and no untoward incidents.

Minister visits

Madhu Bangarappa, Minister for School Education and Literacy visited the Karnataka Public School (KPS) examination centre located at Malleswaram, Bengaluru, and greeted the students by offering roses and wishing them best wishes. Before the commencement of the exams, the minister verified the examination arrangements with the officials.

This is the first annual examination of a total of three exams. A total of 8,96,447 students have registered, including 4,61,563 boys and 4,34,884 girls from 15,881 high schools across the State.

City hospital performs AI-designed intraocular lens implantation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

First such procedure done in Asia, says Nethradhama Super Speciality Eye Hospital

A private hospital in the city announced that it performed Asia's first AI-designed intraocular lens implantation.

Nethradhama Super Speciality Eye Hospital said in a release that it was performed under the leadership of Sri Ganesh, chairman and MD of the hospital and founder trustee of Shraddha Eye Care Trust.

According to a release from the hospital, Dr. Ganesh was the first surgeon in Asia to carry out the procedure using Rayner RayOne Galaxy and Galaxy Toric intraocular lenses (IOLs) which represents an advancement in AI-driven vision correction and a significant step forward in refractive cataract surgery.

"This innovation allows us to offer superior vision outcomes with minimal side effects," claimed Dr. Sri Ganesh. "By leveraging AI-driven technology in intraocular lens design, we can achieve greater precision, enhanced customization, and improved patient satisfaction."

According to him, the biggest challenge with previous IOLs has been balancing vision quality with night vision clarity.

"This new lens overcomes this by using AI to optimize light distribution, giving patients an exceptional visual experience. It revolutionizes vision with its non-diffractive, AI-optimized spiral design, ensuring seamless clarity at all distances while enhancing contrast sensitivity. Unlike traditional trifocal lenses, it evenly distributes light across all focal points, reducing halos and glare for improved night vision. Its innovative optical structure enhances contrast even in low light, and the toric variant offers optimal rotational stability for precise astigmatic correction," he explained.

These lenses are specifically designed for patients with cataracts and astigmatism who seek reduced dependence or complete independence from glasses. Long-term studies will continue to assess patient-reported experiences, particularly in conditions like night driving and low-light environments, he said.

Two more arrested for assaulting Dalit woman at Malpe harbour

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

Udupi police have arrested two more women in connection with the assault on a Dalit woman after tying her to a tree at Malpe fisheries harbour on Tuesday.

The police gave the names of the arrested women as Parvati and Leela. Earlier on Wednesday, police had arrested three persons – Laxmi Bai, Sundar and Shilpa – in connection with the assault in coastal Karnataka.

In addition, Udupi Superintendent of Police K. Arun has suspended two police constables, who were on the beat on the day of the assault at the harbour, for dereliction of duty. Dr. Arun has ordered disciplinary proceedings against Head Constable Suresh and Constable Nagraj for dereliction of duty.

Detailed report sought

Karnataka State Commission for Women has taken cognisance of the incident. It has sought a detailed report about the action taken by police against the accused.

Hassan DC: Sidi ritual will not be allowed to take place

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

Hassan Deputy Commissioner C. Sathyabhama said that the administration will not allow Sidi, a hook-swinging ritual, at Hariharapura in Holenarasipur on Saturday.

Reacting to a news report in *The Hindu* on Friday, the Deputy Commissioner said that the taluk administration had not permitted the Sidi ritual.

"The villagers may have made some preparations but we have not permitted them. We will not allow the hook-swinging ritual. They can organise prayers and other rituals as part of the festival," she said.

As part of the Sidi ritual, iron hooks are inserted into the flesh of the participants' backs. Later they are tied to a long tree trunk, mounted on a wooden pedestal. The people cheer as the trunk with men tied to it is made to rotate 360 degrees.

Residents of Chakenahalli and Hariharapura and neighbouring villages in Holenarasipur taluk, who celebrate the Udusalamma festival, had made preparations to hold the Sidi ritual on Saturday. They had invited guests and relatives from neighbouring villages to witness the event. Senior officers of the Social Welfare Department urged the Hassan Deputy Commissioner to take necessary measures to stop the ritual.

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
E-Tender Notice

The Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer, General, Central Railway, Solapur, for and on behalf of the President of India invites online e-tenders on Railways e procurement website **www.ireps.gov.in** from reputed, experienced & Licensed Electrical contractors for the following works. **Tender No. SUR/L/T/2024/46R. Name of work**: Electrical general service portion work in connection with the provision of energy efficient of various capacity pumps with all accessories over Solapur division (Re-invitation). **Estimated cost**: 1,60,74,494.89. **Validity of offer**: 60 Days. **Bid Security**: 2,30,400/-. **Completion Period**: 12 Months. **Date & time of tenders closing on website**: 15.04.2025 at 15.00 hours. Bid Security cost shall be paid through e-payment on **www.ireps.gov.in** website.

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (G), Central Railway, Solapur
DE/Sur-54

रेल्वे फाटक को बंध स्थिति में पार करना मना है

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that our client intends to purchase Property bearing **Site No.8,** presently bearing BBMP E Aasthi Property No. 5242/133/2A/Site 8 (E.P.I.D No. 3536636775) old Property No.133/2, later Property No.133/2A BBMP SI No. 582/133/2A measuring East to West **40 ft** and North to South **30 ft** totally measuring **1200 Sq ft,** formed in Survey No.133/2A, Situated at **Varthur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk** and bounded on

East by : Site No.9;
West by : Government Road;
North by : Site No.7;
South by : Property of Mr.Muniramappa.

From its Owner Mrs.Saiqa, wife of Mr.Mansoor.

Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections / claims with documentary evidence within **7 days** from the date of this publication to the undersigned.

Geetha Halliyal,
TAVISA LEGAL Advocates
42 High Street, No.775, 2nd Floor, 100 feet Road, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560038, Ph : 9980519476
email : geethahalliyal@gmail.com

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
E-Tender Notice

The Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer, Central Railway, Solapur, for and on behalf of the President of India invites online e-tenders on Railways e procurement website **www.ireps.gov.in** from reputed, experienced & licensed Electrical contractors for the following works. **Tender No. SUR/L/T/2024/ 06R1. Name of Work**: Electrical General services portion of work in connection with Take-off siding for Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited. **Estimated cost**: Rs. 66,61,906.22/- **Bid Security**: Rs.1,33,200/-. **Completion Period**: 12 months. **Validity of offer**: 60 Days. **Tender No. SUR/L/T/2024/28R1 Name of Work**: Annual Maintenance Contract of AC package unit of various make fitted on LHB type AC coaches of roof mounted design of Solapur Division for a period of two years. **Estimated cost**: Rs. 2,17,65,593.59. **Earnest Money**: Rs. 2,58,800/-. **Completion Period**: 24 Months. **Validity of offer**: 90 Days. **Date & time of tender closing on website**: 15.04.2025 at 15.00 hours.

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (G), Central Railway, Solapur
DE/Sur-53

रेल्वे फाटक को बंध स्थिति में पार करना मना है

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-40931272
Website: www.kiadb.in email: cdoce1@kiadb.in or jdtp@kiadb.in

No. IADB/JDTP/EIA/ETND-EC-22/3191/2024-25 Dated:21-03-2025

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER TO PROVIDE CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR OBTAINING ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE (EC) (Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB is inviting tender under two cover systems for providing consultancy services from Environmental Consultant of NABET under 7© category with NABL Accredited Consultant/MoU with NABET & NABL Accredited Consultancy Services Accredited Consultant are eligible to participate in this tenders.

Providing Consultancy Services for preparing EIA, SIS studies etc., to obtain Environmental Clearance (EC) from State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority(SEIAA) and Consent for Establishment (CFE) from Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) and submission of Half-yearly compliance Report for all the conditions of EC & CFE for 3 years for

Name of the Work : 1) Bidaluru Industrial Area at Nelamangala Taluk, Sompura Hobli, Hanumanthapura and Thyamagondlu Hobli Bidaluru and Kodipalya Villages, Bengaluru Rural District an extent of 410.85 Acres. EMD (Rs. in Lakhs) : **2.00. 2)** Srinivasapura Industrial Area Phase-1, Srinivasapura Taluk, Yaldur Hobli, Yadurur Village, Kolar District an extent of 640.40 Acres. EMD (Rs. in Lakhs) : **2.00. 3)** Srinivasapura Industrial Area Phase-2, Srinivasapura Taluk, Yaldur Hobli, Yadurur Village, Kolar District an extent of 633.21Acres. EMD (Rs. in Lakhs) : **2.00.**

Scheduled of dates are as follows:

1. Last Date for Pre bid Queries: **27-03-2025 Up to 04.00 PM.**
2. Pre bid meeting will be held on: **28-03-2025 at 11.30 AM.**
3. Last Date for submission of Tenders **05-04-2025 up to 03.00 PM.**
4. Technical bid opening on **07-04-2025 after 03.30 PM.**

Applicants may download bidding documents from the e-procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/5863/Zen/2024-25

Government of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTORATE OF MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION
9th Floor Vishweshwaraih Towers, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore 560001.
Telephone: 080-22861611 / 22866302 **Fax:** 080-22863576 /22861665
Email: sedmatech@gmail.com **Website:** www.municipaladmn.gov.in

No: 1436047 DMA/TECH/MISC/78/2024 Date: 21.03.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited for Construction of Gas/Electrical Crematoriums under UIDF Scheme as follows

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimate Cost (Rs in Lakhs)
1.	Package-1: Construction of Electrical crematorium at Davanagere CC and Gas Crematorium at Tumakuru CC under UIDF scheme (INDENT NO: DMA/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT27511/Call-2)	800.00
2.	Package-4: Construction of Electrical crematorium at Kalburgi CC and Gas Crematorium at Ballari CC under UIDF scheme (INDENT NO: DMA/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT32742/ Call-2)	800.00
3.	Package-6: Construction of Electric Crematorium at Rabhakavibanahatti CMC and Gas Crematorium at Bagalkote CMC under UIDF scheme (INDENT NO: DMA/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT29222/ Call-2).	800.00
4.	Package-7: Construction of Electric Crematorium at Bidar CMC and Gas Crematorium at Gokak CMC under UIDF scheme (INDENT NO: DMA/2024 25/BD/ WORK_INDENT30600/ Call-2)	800.00
5.	Package-10: Construction of Electric Crematorium at Chikkamagaluru CMC and Gas Crematorium at Bhadravathi CMC under UIDF scheme (INDENT NO: DMA/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT32765/ Call-2)	800.00
6.	Package-12: Construction of Gas Crematorium at Raichuru CMC and Sindhanuru CMC under UIDF scheme (INDENT NO: DMA/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT35494/ Call-2)	800.00
7.	Package-13: Construction of Gas Crematorium at Hosapete CMC and Gangavathi CMC under UIDF scheme (INDENT NO: DMA/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT35561/ Call-2)	800.00

The tenders are invited on KPP portal in two cover system and interested bidders/agencies are requested to participate within the date indicated in the KPP portal. Any information can be obtained through KPP portal.

Sd/-
Director, Directorate of Municipal Administration, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/5865/Zen/2024-25

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

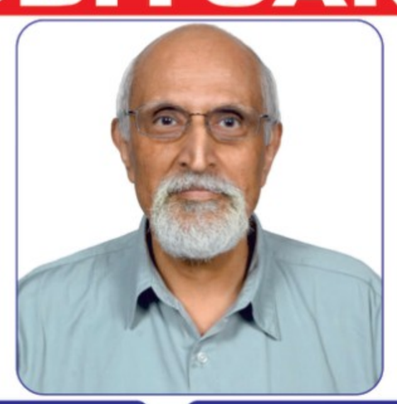
DEATH

OBITUARY

Born: 24.11.1950 Died : 20.03.2025 (in USA)

Dr. K R Rajagopal
Son of Late Sri K R Ramamani & Smt. Hemalata Ramamani
Deeply Mourned by
Smt. Asha Vijayaraghavan & Family
#75, Dr.Radhakrishnan Salai, Mylapore, Chennai – 04

OBITUARY



Born: 24.11.1950 Died : 20.03.2025 (in USA)

Dr. K R Rajagopal
Son of Late Sri K R Ramamani & Smt. Hemalata Ramamani
Deeply Mourned by
Chandrika Rajagopal, Keshava & Shilpa Rajagopal
Sudarshan & Kavita Rajagopal And Grand Children
75, Dr.Radhakrishnan Salai, Mylapore, Chennai – 04

K S G RAMAN (71)
We are deeply saddened at his demise. He had worked for Gulf housing Construction Company, Doha, Qatar & GMR, Bengaluru.
Last rites at Porur crematorium at 12 noon on 22.03.2025
Mourned by
Wife - Raji,
Daughters - Archana & Deepa Sriram and 4 Grandchildren.

Mrs.Visalakshi Balasubramanian
W/o Mr.M.G.Balasubramanian,IAS(R).
passed away peacefully in the early hours of 21st March.
Bereaved by children
Vijaya Krishnamurthy,
Ravi & Jaishankar (Jingly),
their spouses and
the extended family.

PROPERTYPLUS
HOMES AND REAL ESTATE NEWS

thehindu.com/features/homes-and-gardens
THE HINDU

Crafting around trees

Architect Arjun Nambisan's project integrates a 17,000 sq.ft. multi-dwelling complex into a 7,500 sq.ft. site while preserving mature trees. The design balances nature and architecture

Nandhini Sundar

When a structure spanning 17,000 sq. ft. needs to be accommodated within a 7,500 sq.ft. site already occupied by over 20 Gulmohar, Mango, Silver Oak, and Christmas trees, the task becomes challenging. It is heightened when the aim is to retain the dense, mature trees, and integrate the building seamlessly into their midst. Yet, architect Arjun Nambisan of Balan and Nambisan Architects (BNA) accomplished just that, designing a multi-dwelling complex that winds through the trees, some of which are incorporated into the building's interiors.

"The design was a response to what existed on the site, the context of the location, the prevailing site conditions", says Nambisan, elaborating on the approach adopted in his project Vaishnavi Rhapsody, to retain the existing trees and build around them. "A couple of trees had to be moved, but we successfully relocated them in the site," he adds.

SHAMANTH PATIL

Needless to say, this endeavour required meticulous mapping of the trees, with guidance from a horticulturist, to ensure the best conservation strategy within the limited space.

Based on the inputs gleaned from the horticulturist, the foundation was laid around the trees, with the roots, stem and branches mapped using a LiDAR survey. "Through the LiDAR survey, the growth path of the trees was ascertained including their existing boundaries. This helped to steer clear from this growth path and prevent their suffocation by the ensuing structure", explains Nambisan. "A detailed study of the root system and how it works was done to ensure the bulk of the roots are not cut or penetrated by the upcoming structure."

While need a sensitive design, addressing the massing, Nambisan also ensured the building complied with vaastu requirements. Interestingly, the initial concept that he floated was more unconventional and bolder than the final iteration that was executed. "We envisaged bringing in the trees on a much larger scale into the structure in the form of skylit courtyards where each unit of the multi-dwelling would house a tree, the structure built around it", he elaborates.

However, given the multi-dwelling model solicited instead of being a single dwelling, the concept adopted had to be more practical to conform to a community residence. What emerged was a structure housing a series of balconies and decks that serve as courtyards where a tree is permitted to pierce through their space and into the vertical expanse of the building. In one of the dwellings, given the existence of a tree in the space where the toilet was to be built, the walls of the toilet were craftily sculpted around it, the tree reaching in and dictating the size and shape of this toilet.

Challenges galore

Even though the existing trees were meticulously mapped to understand their root structure, and future growth patterns, before designing the building and working on the foundation, many challenges were still encountered at the time of construction, says Architect Janice Rodrigues, who worked closely on the project. "While executing the foundation, one of the existing trees fell, and this happened after meticulous mapping and planning had been completed. The tree was then saved with the help of a horticulturist", she recalls.

The other challenge Nambisan and his team faced was the requirement to fit a built area of 17,000 sq.ft. into the tight site of 7,500 sq.ft. "This meant every inch of the space had to be efficiently used", points Nambisan. "It called for a high-level planning to ensure there was value-add in every segment of the site." Thus, an open plan prevails at ground level with the setback spaces and tree cover converted into community relaxation and interaction zones. At the conceptual level, this also blurs the boundaries of the inside and outside spaces.

The challenges encountered did not stop with the design and execution but extended to educating the workforce to take appropriate care of the existing trees during the construction. This called for a strong barricade around the trees to prevent cement, nails and construction debris from ruining them. Where trimming of branches was required, it was addressed scientifically after consultations with the horticulturist on "what could be trimmed and what could not be."

Glass, steel and greens

In tune with the abounding greens in the site, the façade of the building is kept simple, speaking a language of steel and glass that is interspersed with brick and wood, the cover of greens lending a sense of warmth and earthiness to the structure. "We adopted a composite structure of RCC and steel to permit the trees to fuse into the decks of the individual units in the complex", explains Nambisan. The step-out decks of each dwelling are thus a cantilevered steel structure that plugs into the RCC frame. The individual dwellings also display a deft blurring of boundaries between the interiors and exteriors, creating a visual expanse in the spaces. This openness in the design keeps the interiors naturally lit and ventilated, negating the need for artificial lighting.

Large overhangs over the openings and decks further reduce heat ingress while visually opening the interiors to the greens. Interestingly, this sensitive approach in the design of the structure around the trees also prompted dispensing with a basement car park and instead assigning the parking organically between the trees in the front section of the building.

The terrace of the building houses a large common area that is once again suffused in greens, along with a kitchen and bar counter to serve as a community gathering space. The canopy of greens covering this terrace space lends the feel of living amidst thick woods rather than on a tight site in a dense urban neighbourhood. The four-level structure houses five single-level units and two duplex units. Because of its unique design, the project received the IIA Award for Excellence in Architecture 2021 under the category, Residential Projects B.

THE HINDU
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Govt. mulls over free power supply for anganwadi centres

Over 12,000 centres have pending dues towards electricity supply companies

Jahnavi T. R.
BENGALURU

There are 69,919 anganwadi centres in Karnataka out of which 67,590 are main centres and 2,329 are mini centres.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

After providing free electricity to government schools and colleges, the Karnataka government is now mulling over providing free electricity to all anganwadi centres across the State.

Speaking in the Legislative Assembly, Minister of Women and Child Development, Laxmi Hebbalkar said 12,804 anganwadi centres have electricity bill dues towards various electricity supply companies (Escoms).

Uttara Kannada district has the highest number of centres (2,234 out of 2,782) having pending dues, followed by 1,515 in Chitradurga, 1,244 in Bagalkot, 1,112 in Kolar, and 1,060 in Haveri district.

"It has come to the notice of the government that anganwadi centres have pending dues towards Escoms and grants have been released to the centres for administrative expenses till March 2025. The government is also examining the proposal about providing free electricity to anganwadi centres," Ms. Hebbalkar said.

In November 2023, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced free water and electricity for all government schools after the Karnataka State Primary School Teachers Association submitted a proposal when they were hit by a shortage of maintenance funds. "That the department has submitted this proposal is a welcome move. We have been asking for this for a long time. In an anganwadi centre, electricity is required for many things including cooking. Now with summer approaching, fans are a necessity. All the work is now digital, so phones and devices need to be charged," said S. Varalakshmi, State president, CITU Karnataka, who represents anganwadi workers. The officials of the Energy Department said the suggestion has come to the Department about the provision of free electricity to anganwadi centres.

"The intention to provide free electricity is good. But we have to see how the arrears and bills will be paid. We will also have to listen to comments from experts and then decide," according to a senior official.

There are 69,919 anganwadi centres in Karnataka out of which 67,590 are main centres and 2,329 are mini centres. Out of these, 47,293 centres operate from their own buildings while 12,992 operate out of rented buildings. The remaining are operating from panchayat buildings, community halls, school campuses etc. "In the year 2024-25, the government had ordered the renovation of 6,066 centres and the establishment of 383 new centres," Ms. Hebbalkar said.

Embassy Developments signs ₹1,125-crore land deal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Embassy Developments Ltd. (EDL), through its wholly-owned subsidiary Embassy East Business Park Pvt. Ltd., has signed definitive agreements with Lam Research (India) Pvt. Ltd., a global semiconductor equipment manufacturer, to sub-lease and subsequently divest, 25 acres of land in Whitefield.

The transaction is valued at ₹1,125 crore and is subject to regulatory approvals. This engagement between EDL and a global semiconductor firm reflects the growing demand for quality commercial infrastructure that caters to the evolving needs of cutting-edge industries, as per an official communique.

Aditya Virwani, Managing Director, Embassy Developments, said: "Bengaluru remains a top choice for global corporations, and this transaction reaffirms EDL's capability to unlock value through strategic asset monetisation."

Preliminary examination for KAS posts: Tribunal directs KPSC to refer unexamined questions to expert panel

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Administrative Tribunal has directed the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) to refer to the expert committee to examine correctness of translation of some of the questions, which were not examined earlier by the committee, in the preliminary re-exam held on December 29, 2024, to select candidates to the 385 posts of Gazetted Probationer Group A and B.

'No fresh exam'

While declining to order for fresh conduct of preliminary exam, the tribunal asked the KPSC for examining only those questions which were not examined by the committee during earlier scrutiny.

A Bench of the tribunal comprising S.Y. Watawati (judicial member) and Amita Prasad (administrative member) issued the direction in its March 19 order while disposing of applications filed by aspirant candidates Krishna M. and others.

Interest of applicants

"The interest of the applicants will be sufficiently safeguarded if the expert committee is directed to relook into such questions. We are also conscious of the fact that there has to be finality in result and conduct of such competitive examination," the tribunal observed.

Pointing out an instruction given in the question paper for preliminary examination clearly states that the candidates are to refer to the English version in case of confusion arising out of Kannada translation, the tribunal said that the variation in translation would not be a ground for re-examination and interference with examination already conducted.

The tribunal has also noted that the preliminary examination is an objective-type where multiple choice answers are given. There is no record in OMR sheet to prefer language option so the medium in which the candidate has opted to read the question and understand is left to the candidate.

The head office of the Karnataka Public Service Commission near Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

The preliminary examination was held in August 2024

Background of case

Initially, the preliminary examination was held on August 27, 2024, and due to complaint that there were errors in translation of 58 questions from English to Kannada, the State government had directed the KPSC to conduct re-exam.

After re-exam, it was complained that there were errors in translation of 79 questions.

Subject experts

Following this, the KPSC had set up 12 subject expert committees to examine correctness of translation. The committee found that only translation of five questions to Kannada would impact candidates, and recommended the KPSC to grant grace marks to all the candidates for these questions.

Based on this, the KPSC published result of preliminary exam on February 10, 2025, intimating that 5,746 candidates, in ratio of 1:15 among the successful candidates, are eligible to participate in the main examination.

Gazetted probationer main exam postponed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Public Service Commission has postponed the main examination, scheduled to be held for three days from March 28, for the recruitment of 385 posts of Gazetted Probationer Group-A and B cadre, for an indefinite period. The KPSC issued a notification on Friday.

"The schedule for the main examination was fixed for March 28, 29, and April 1. However, owing to various reasons, the examination has been postponed and the new date will be announced soon," the Commission said. The KPSC had conducted the preliminary examination on December 29, 2024.

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Namma Metro to Be Extended to Devanahalli, 3 More Towns

The Bengaluru government is planning to extend the **Metro rail connectivity** to four of the city's peripheral towns **Doddaballapur**, Nelamangala, Devanahalli and Hoskote located on the outskirts of Bengaluru to improve mobility and decongest traffic.

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M BG-BGE

HC orders handing over of custody of minor back to parents

Acting on the 'principle of best interest of the child', the Bench pointed out that the dispute between the boy's parents and aunts had a detrimental effect on the minor child

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has ordered handing over of custody of a 16-year-old boy to his parents from paternal grandmother and paternal aunts, who had claimed his permanent custody and his guardianship by alleging that parents were not caring for him, when, in fact, the parents had left him with them as companion to the aunts, who are unmarried, and the grandmother.

A Division Bench comprising Justice K.S. Mudagal and Justice C.M. Poonacha issued the direction on a petition filed by the boy's parents, who had questioned the family court's order of granting temporary custody of the boy to his aunts and grandmother.

The boy was living in the company of his aunts and grandmother, as all of them, including his parents, were living in the same building in Bengaluru city since his birth in 2009. However, differences between his parents and aunts cropped up after during 2015 due to alleged tutoring of of the boy by his aunts against his parents. This was following certain dispute over properties, resulting in the parents living at a different place with their second son, who is now 14.

Suit for guardianship

This resulted in the aunts filling a suit for guardianship of the boy, which ultimately ended with certain compromise on the condition that the parents will have to pay money for boy's expenses. The aunts filed a petition before the family court in 2018 seeking money from boy's parents. The parents then filed a suit for custody of their son and the family court in its interim order of April 2023, and ordered temporary custody with aunts as he was living with them.

Acting on the "principle of best interest of the child", the Bench pointed out that the dispute between boy's parents and aunts "had a detrimental effect on the minor child..." resulting in the custody of the child continuing with the paternal grandmother and paternal aunts.

"The result of the unfortunate situation is that the minor child has grown up without having a free and natural upbringing with his parents as also a complete absence of bonding with his younger sibling. The same is definitely not in the interest and well being of the minor child," the court observed.

Though the boy, during his interaction with the judges, had expressed comfort in the custody of aunts, the Bench noted that child's affinity with the aunts is natural as he has been living with them for a long period due to peculiar circumstances and this aspect alone cannot be considered while deciding custody. Declining to accept the aunts' claim that the parents did not have sufficient finances to take care of the boy, the Bench noted that aunts, who claimed financial capacity to take care of him, had sought money from parents by filing a petition. The Bench also noted that boy's father, who served in a public sector undertaking as a deputy engineer by drawing salary of about ₹2 lakh per month, is getting sufficient pension after his retirement apart from having immovable assets.

"In this situation, it is clear that the parents are in a better position to take care of the education and other financial needs of the minor child," the Bench observed while handing over of his custody to parents after current academic session, with effect from May 1. However, the Bench has given visitation rights to aunts and grandmother twice in a month.

Man arrested

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Tipped-off by the owner of a hotel in Thanisandra that one of his employees was in possession of an explosive substance, a team from Sampigehalli Police rushed to the hotel on Thursday morning.

The team recovered a red paste-like material wrapped in plastic from one of the hotel employees Abdul Rehaman, 23.

Since he did not have any license to possess the explosive material, he was booked under the Explosive Substances Act, 1908, and arrested.

Police sources say the explosive material is sulphur powder, often used to make crackers. Investigations are on.

Woman found dead, murder alleged

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Shilpa, 39, working as a staff nurse at a private hospital, was found dead under mysterious circumstances at her home in Suddaguntepalya on Thursday evening.

While her husband and his relatives have claimed that she ended her life, the deceased's parents have alleged that the couple had a marital dispute as the husband was suspecting her fidelity and accused him of strangling her to death.

The Suddaguntepalya Police have sent the body for an autopsy and are waiting for the report to ascertain the exact cause of death. Meanwhile, they have detained the husband and are questioning him.

(Those in distress or with suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahayavani Ph.: 104 or the Tele MANAS toll-free helpline numbers 14416 or 1-800-891-4416.)

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, MAR. 22		
RISE	06:22	SET 18:30
RISE	00:21	SET 11:47
SUNDAY, MAR. 23		
RISE	06:22	SET 18:31
RISE	01:16	SET 12:43
MONDAY, MAR. 24		
RISE	06:21	SET 18:31
RISE	02:09	SET 13:42

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	34	24
Mysuru	35	20
Bengaluru	34	21

Bengaluru Today
35°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be warm with uneasy afternoon. Night also will be pleasant. Dry weather to prevail.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
34°C The weather will be warm. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower with gusty winds may occur.

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THE HINDU
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GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, KARAIKAL

e-TENDER NOTICE No.40/I&PH/TN/2024-25 Dt.21.03.2025
Notice inviting e-Tender

The Executive Engineer, Irrigation and Public Health Division, PWD, Karaikal invites on behalf of the President of India, online bids for the following Work(s): **Name of Work:** Development of Smart and Integrated Fishing Harbour at Karaikal, Puducherry **Sub work:** (A) Infrastructure facilities. **Estimate Cost:** Rs. 70,60,32,774/- (inclusive of GST). **Earnest Money:** Rs.80,60,328/- **Period of Completion:** Eighteen (18) Months (Including Monsoon period). **Last time & date of submission of tender:** 04.00 PM on 15.04.2025

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website **www.pudutenders.gov.in.**

No. 114/ DIP/KKL/ADVT/2025 — **EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - I&PH**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗೃಹ ಮಂಡಳಿ
3ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಕಾವೇರಿ ಭವನ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕಗೃಮಂ/ಕಾ/ಹಂಚಿಕೆ–06/ಪ.ಪ್ರ/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.03.2024

ಕಾಲಾವಕಾಶ ವಿಸ್ತರಣೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗೃಹ ಮಂಡಳಿಯು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಚಿಂದಾಪುರ–ಆನೇಕಲ್ ಮುಖ್ಯರಸ್ತೆಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿಕೊಂಡಂತೆ ಸೂರ್ಯನಗರ 1ನೇ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ **'ಸೂರ್ಯ ಡಿವೈನ್'** (**Surya Divine**) ವಸತಿ ಸಮುಚ್ಚಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುವ 2 ಬಿಹೆಚ್‌ಕೆ ಫ್ಲಾಟ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಲು ಉದ್ದೇಶಿಸಿ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆಯಡಿ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಿಂದ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿ ವಿವಿಧ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ನೀಡಿದ್ದು, ಆರಂಭಿಕ ಠೇವಣಿ ಮೊತ್ತದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.03.2025ರವರೆಗೆ ವಿಸ್ತರಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. **ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರ ಹಿತದೃಷ್ಟಿಯಿಂದ ಆರಂಭಿಕ ಠೇವಣಿ ಮೊತ್ತವನ್ನು ಪಾವತಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು 30.04.2025ರವರೆಗೆ ವಿಸ್ತರಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.** ಉಳಿದಂತೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18.01.2025ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿರುವ ಷರತ್ತು ಮತ್ತು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಆಸಕ್ತಿ ಇರುವ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರು ಆರಂಭಿಕ ಠೇವಣಿಯನ್ನು e-payment ಮೂಲಕ ಪಾವತಿಸಿ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಅರ್ಜಿ (Online Application) ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.04.2025

ಸಹಿ/– ಗೃಹ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು
ಕಗೃಮಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

DIPR/CP/YC/5856/2024-25

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (South Zone) BBMP,
South Zone, 9th Cross, 9th Main, Jayanagar, 2nd Block, Bangalore-560011.

No. SADH(S)TENDER/35/2024-25 Date: 21.03.2025

LETTER OF INVITATION TENDER NOTIFICATION
(SHORT TERM) (SINGLE COVER SYSTEM) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

A) The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (South), (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders to Implement in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/Agencies / Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour department for Maintenance of Parks.**B)** The tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the instructions to tenderers to qualify for award of the contract (standard tender document KW-1). **C)** Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka e-Procurement website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home** under login for Contractors.

Sl. No.	Name of the Works/Estimate Cost Rs./EMD Amount Rs./Category
1	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Hosahalli Ward Parks (Ward No 146) (Call-2). Estimate Cost : **7,63,237.00** , EMD Amount : **19,081.00** , Category : **Others**
2	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in GaliAnjaneya Temple Ward Parks (Ward No 149)(Call-2). Estimate Cost : **11,23,788.00** , EMD Amount : **14,047.00** , Category : **CAT-II(A)**
3	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in DeepanjaliNagara Ward Parks (Ward No 151)(Call-2). Estimate Cost : **10,00,000.00** , EMD Amount : **25,000.00** , Category : **Others**
4	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Avalahalli Ward Parks (Ward No 152)(Call-2). Estimate Cost : **3,19,999.00** , EMD Amount : **8,000.00** , Category : **Others**

Calender of events as follows:
(1) Date of Notification : **21.03.2025, (2)** Tender can be downloaded from: **24.03.2025, (3)** Tender Closing Date : **01.04.2025** at **4.00 PM, (4)** Financial bid opening date: **02.04.2025** at **4.30 PM,**

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture,(South Zone), BBMP.

Government of Karnataka
SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE, JOINT DIRECTOR, SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT
Opp: Mini Vidhana Soudha, Aiwan-E-Shahi Road, Kalaburagi-585102
Ph.: 08472-278621, E-mail : dswoglb@gmail.com

No/JDSWDK/Acct/Food/CR/42/2024-25 Date:20-03-2025

CORRIGENDUM

Short term e-Tender Notification has been Called for the financial year 2025-26 and 2026-27 for procuring food and other articles for the Pre-Post metric hostels, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Residential schools working under the department in the district as per the Karnataka transparency in public procurement Act 1999 and 2000 from the eligible suppliers / Bidders / Agencies / ext. though e-procurement.

Re-Events of e-procurement.

Short term e-Tender Notification date 27-01-2025, Estimated amount put for Tender **Rs. 5744.34 lakhs,** date of uploading the e-Tender forms **29-01-2025 from 10-00 am. To 01-04-2025 5-30 pm,** Sample submit last date **25-03-2025 1-30 pm,** Technical bid opening date **04-04-2025,** Financial bid opening date **07-04-2025,** Contact address of the officer for enquires / information joint Director Social Welfare Department, Kalaburagi, Telephone No.08472-278621. **(www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.)**

Sd/- Joint Director,
DIPR/Kalaburagi/1129/KSMC&A/2024-25 **Social Welfare Department, Kalaburagi**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ
ಪಂಚಾಯತ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಯಾದಗಿರ.

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಕಾಪಾಅ/ಪಂರಾಇಂ/ವಿಯಾ/ಮಗಾನ/ಬೂನೀನಿಯೋ/ಟೆ.ಪ್ರ/ತಾಸ–1&2/2024–25/2151
ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19.03.2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಸಂಕ್ಷಿಪ್ತ ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ) ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆ

1) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ: ಶಹಾಪೂರ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ 05 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು (5ನೇ ಕರೆ) ಯಾದಗಿರ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ 01 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು (5ನೇ ಕರೆ) **2) ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ:** 2024–25ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಮಹಾತ್ಮಗಾಂಧಿ ನರೇಗಾ ಬೂದು ನೀರು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಯೋಜನೆ **3) ಟೆಂಡರಿಗಿಟ್ಟ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ:** ಕನಿಷ್ಠ 61.21 ಮತ್ತು ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ರೂ. 38.89 ಲಕ್ಷ **4) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ದರ್ಜೆ:** As per Bid Document 5) ಟೆಂಡರ ಫಾರಂ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ:21.03.2025 ರಿಂದ 29.03.2025 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4:00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ **6) ಟೆಂಡರ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ:** ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿದಂತೆ (ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶಿಲ್ಕು ಹಿಂದಿರುಗಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲಾ) 7) **ಟೆಂಡರ ಫಾರಂ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ:** 29.03.2025 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4:00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ **8) ಟೆಂಡರ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ತಾಂತ್ರೀಕ:** 01.04.2025 ಬೆಳ್ಳಿಗೆ 11:00 ನಂತರ **9) ಟೆಂಡರ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ:** 03.04.2025 ಬೆಳ್ಳಿಗೆ 11:00 ನಂತರ **10) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ವಿಳಾಸ (ಕಛೇರಿ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ):** ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಯಾದಗಿರ. **11) ಅಂತರಜಾಲ ತಾಣದ ವಿಳಾಸ:** https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

ಸೂಚನೆ :– ಟೆಂಡರರಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂದಿಸಿದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಕಛೇರಿ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು (ರಜಾದಿನಗಳು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ).

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಯಾದಗಿರಿ/593/ಕೆ.ಎಸ್.ಎಂ.ಸಿ.ಎ/2024–25 **ಸಹಿ/–ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು,**
ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಯಾದಗಿರ.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE,
RPRC, BHUBANESWAR
(e-mail Id: rprcbbsr@gmail.com) ; Tel-(0674)-2557925

CORRIGENDUM NOTICE

No-480 Dated - 17.03.2025

The bid for **"Modernization of Research Laboratories at RPRC Bhubaneswar"** invited vide Tender call Procurement Notice No - 411 dated 04.03.2025 will be available in the RPRC website : **www.rprcbbsr.in** and in e-portal **https://rprc.ewizard.in** from dated **24.03.2025 (10 A.M) to 15.04.2025 (10 A.M) instead of 06.03.2025 (10 A.M) to dated 27.03.2025 (10 A.M)** for **online bidding only** & the **date of opening (Technical Bid) may be read as dated 16.04.2025 at 11.30 A.M instead of dated 27.03.2025 at 11.30 A.M.**

The other terms & conditions detailed out in the notification published on **05.03.2025** remains unaltered.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE, RPRC, BHUBANESWAR.

MM-537 OIPR-08004/11/0035/2425

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ.
ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಸಂಘ, ವಿಜಯನಗರ
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್:–E-Mail:rchovijayanagara@gmail.com

No:/NHM/Tender/Vehicle/ /2024-25 Date:20/03/2025

TENDER NOTICE FOR HIRING OF VEHICLES

E-tenders (Online) are invited through E-Procurement Portal from reputed parties/agencies supplying of 16 (11 under RBSK Programme and 5 other programmes) vehicles with drivers on outsource-basis for official use of Various National Programmes of Health & Welfare department, Vijayanagara District under National Health Mission. Interested Parties/ Agencies who are willing to comply with the terms and conditions annexed to this notice, may submit their bids online as given in the instructions for online bid .

The tender schedule under e-procurement system is as follows Details/Date and Time:01.Date of Tender Notification: **21-03-2025.11.30am.** 02.Last date for submission of Tender documentes: **04-04-2025.5.00pm.** 03.Pre Bid Meeting : **01-04-2025. 5.30pm.** 04.Date of opening of Technical Bid: **05-04-2025. 5.30pm.** 05.Date of Opening of Financial Bid: **09-04-2025. 11.30am.** 06.Estimated Tender Amount: **69,24,000/-.** 07.EMD Amount: **1,73,100/-.** 08.Place of Tender Opening: **DHO Office Vijayanagara**

For Further information can be obtained from District RCH officer, Vijayanagar District in office hours. Mo.No:-7892724423.

Sd/-Member Secretary, District Health and Family Welfare Society, Vijayanagar District.
DIPR/Vijayanagar/2024-25/KSMCA/RO No/604

District Health and Family Welfare Office
Karwar, Uttar Kannada

Est(1)/ 164 /2024-25 Date: 20.03.2025

NOTIFICATION

Applications are called for the recruitment of specialists against sanctioned vacant posts in Taluka Hospitals/Community Health Centres/M.C.H. Hospitals on contract basis under the below mentioned modes of recruitment as per the guidelines of the Government.

1. **Hiring on per day basis:** The specialists would be paid on the rate of Rs.3930/- per day, subject to the condition that they shall serve at least two days in a week.
2. **Hiring at ABArK rates:** Under ABArK scheme, the doctors performing a procedure are paid certain incentive amount which is a percentage of total cost of the procedure. The specialists for the specialities like OBG, Anaesthesia and Surgery etc can be offered such incentive amounts for their contractual services. The incentive amount to be paid to them would be calculated at the full procedure rates which are paid to the private hospitals.
3. **Hiring for per-case basis:** The specialists like Radiologists can be hired for their services on per Ultrasound scans. They can be given the liberty to either come in person and certify the scans or do the same through a tele-radiology system which is to be provided by them.

Interested Specialists can submit the filled in application forms along with all the documents to the District Health and Family Welfare, Office, Karwar on working days.

For more information contact office no. **08382-226339**

Vacant posts are as follows:

SL. No.	Name of the Hospital	Vacant Post
01	Taluka Hospital, Ankola	OBG
02		Pediatrician
03		Ophthalmologist
04		Dermatologist
05	Taluka Hospital, Kumta	E.N.T. Surgeon
06		Ophthalmologist
07	Taluka Hospital, Honnavar	General Surgeon
08		Ophthalmologist
09	Taluka Hospital, Bhatkal	Ophthalmologist
10		Dermatologist
11	Pandit General Hospital, Sirsi	Ophthalmologist
12	Taluka Hospital, Siddapur	Ophthalmologist
13		Dermatologist
14	Taluka Hospital, Yellapur	General Surgeon
15		E.N.T. Surgeon
16		Dermatologist
17		Physician
18	Taluka Hospital, Mundgod	Physician
19		Ophthalmologist
20		Anaesthetist
21		Pediatrician

SL. No.	Name of the Hospital	Vacant Post
22	Community Health Centre, Pala, Tq: Mundgod	OBG
23		Anaesthetist
24	Taluka Hospital, Haliyal	Anaesthetist
25		Dermatologist
26	General Hospital, Dandeli	Anaesthetist
27		Physician
28	Mother and Child care Hospital, Dandeli	Anaesthetist
29		Pediatrician
30	Taluka Hospital, Joida	OBG
31		Anaesthetist
32		General Surgeon
33		Pediatrician
34		Dermatologist

Name of hospitals where radiologist posts can be recruited: (1) Taluka Hospital, Ankola (2) Taluka Hospital, Kumta (3) Taluka Hospital, Bhatkal (4) Pandit General Hospital, Sirsi (5) Taluka Hospital, Yellapur (6) Taluka Hospital, Mundgod (7) Taluka Hospital, Haliyal (8) General Hospital, Dandeli (9) Mother and Child care Hospital, Dandeli (10) Taluka Hospital, Joida

Sd/-, Dist. Health & F.W. Officer
U.K. Karwar

DIPR/MNG/KSMCA/1011/24-25 dt. 21.03.2025

STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LIMITED
19-A, RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHY ROAD, EGMORE, CHENNAI-600 008.
CIN U74999TN1971SGC005967

RE-TENDER [SHORT TERM]
(ONLINE ONLY)

Re-Tender Notice NIT.No.44/CD/T.No.44/2024-25 **Dt.21.03.2025**

For and on behalf of State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited, tenders are invited under **"Two Cover System"** through online only for the following work from **qualified Bidders** having experience in similar nature of works as mentioned under. Tenders will be received upto **15.30 Hrs** (as per server system clock) on **08.04.2025** and the same will be opened at **15.30 Hrs** (as per server system clock) on **09.04.2025.**

Name of Work	Approx. value of work	EMD
Design & Build 2000 KLD capacity Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) based Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) with 5 Years of operation and maintenance on DBO basis at SIPCOT Industrial Park, Perundurai, Erode district, Tamil Nadu	**Rs.46.85 Crores (Inclusive of GST @18%)**	**Rs.24,00,000/-***
* EMD should be paid through Online in the portal **(https://tntenders.gov.in)**		
The tender schedule can be downloaded at free of cost from the website **https://tntenders.gov.in**		

DIPR/1127/Tender/2025 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

CHENNAI METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
CIRCLE-II, CONSTRUCTION WING, FIRST FLOOR,
'A' BLOCK, 'E' ROAD, KOYAMBEDU, CHENNAI- 600 107.

Short e- TENDER NOTICE Dt. 21.03.2025

e-Tender is invited from the Government registered and experienced contractors by the Superintending Engineer, Circle-II, Construction Wing, Chennai – 600107, under Two Cover System for the work of **"Construction of Library Building at Gandhi Nagar, Adyar, Chennai"**

Tender Notice No.	**11/2024-25 dt.21.03.2025**
Last date & Time of receipt of e-tenders	**08.04.2025 upto 3.00 PM**
Downloading the tender document by free of cost	**24.03.2025 to 08.04.2025 upto 3.00 PM**
For further details visit website	**http://tntenders.gov.in**

Superintending Engineer
Circle II, C.W, CMDA,
Chennai - 600 107.

DIPR/ 1133 /TENDER/2025

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100% hike in salaries of CM, Ministers, and legislators

Chief Minister's pay at ₹1.5 lakh; salary increase to cost the State exchequer ₹62 crore annually

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In the midst of heavy borrowings by the Government of Karnataka to meet capital expenditure, the Legislative Assembly passed two Bills to double the salaries of MLAs, MLCs, the Chief Minister, and Ministers, and hiked their allowances.

The hikes will cost the State exchequer ₹62 crore annually.

On Friday, amid pandemonium in the House, the Karnataka Legislatures Salaries, Pensions and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 2025, and the Karnataka Ministers Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 2025, were passed. The two Bills significantly hiked all types of allowances, including house rent and travel allowance, for legislators and Ministers.

Salaries of MLAs and MLCs doubled from ₹40,000 to ₹80,000 a month, while the Chief Minister's pay increased from ₹75,000 to ₹1.5 lakh, besides the hike in other allowances. "There is a considerable increase in the cost of living. The salary and allowances for the Chief Minister, Ministers, Minister of State, and Deputy Ministers have not been revised since a long time," stated the Bill.

The salary of the Legislative Council Chairman and Speaker of the Legislative Assembly was increased from ₹75,000 to ₹1.25 lakh a month, an increase of ₹50,000. The salary of the Deputy Chairman and Deputy Speaker was hiked from ₹60,000 to ₹80,000. The salary of the Leader of the Opposition went up from ₹₹60,000 to ₹80,000. The salary of the Government Chief Whip and the Opposition Chief Whip was hiked from ₹50,000 to ₹70,000.

The government said the Bills were drafted as the MLAs and MLCs have been asking for a long-overdue salary revision. A 2022 amendment mandates a salary hike every five years.

Salary & allowances of CM, Ministers

Allowance	Existing	Revised
Salary of Chief Minister	₹75,000	₹1.5 lakh
Salary of Minister	₹60,000	₹1.25 lakh
Sumptuary allowance	₹4.5 lakh	₹5 lakh
HRA of Minister	₹1.2 lakh	₹2.5 lakh
Salary of Minister of State	₹50,000	₹75,000
HRA of Minister of State	₹1.20 lakh	₹2 lakh

Salary & allowances of MLAs, MLCs

Allowance	Existing	Revised
Salary	₹40,000	₹80,000
Pension	₹50,000	₹75,000
Additional pension	₹5,000	₹20,000
Additional travel allowance (with companion)	₹1 lakh	₹2 lakh
Ex-Member medical allowance	₹5,000	₹20,000
Fixed medical allowance	₹2,500	₹10,000
Constituency travelling allowance	₹60,000	₹80,000
Railway/air fare (annual)	₹2.5 lakh	₹3.5 lakh
Telephone and constituency allowances and postal charges	-	₹1.10 lakh
Salary of personal assistant and room boy	₹20,000	₹25,000

4% quota for Muslims: Bill passed amid vociferous protests by BJP

IN THE LEGISLATURE

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amidst protest by the Opposition BJP and JD(S) members and a strong defence by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements (Amendment) Bill, 2025, that provides for 4% reservation to contractors from Muslim community in public works was passed in both Houses of the Legislature on Friday. The Opposition later in the day petitioned Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot, requesting him to not clear the Bill.

While the BJP opposed the Bill, pointing to the lack of Constitutional provisions to support religion based reservation, the Congress argued that reservation was based on socio-economic backwardness and not religion. The community is under category 2-B of the Karnataka's backward classes reservation matrix, and the Bill seeks to provide reservation to 2-B category.

Congress member B.K. Hariprasad in the Legislative Council in Bengaluru on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Bill was passed in the Assembly without discussion amidst dharna by the Opposition, and it was passed in the Council amidst protest by the Opposition, who after taking part in the discussion trooped into the Well seeking withdrawal of the Bill. They even tore copies of the Bill and hurled them in air in the Council.

The Bill generated intense discussion - often taking communal colour - during the discussion in the Council. BJP member C.T. Ravi said the Constitution does not provide for religion-based reservation, and that leaders such as B.R. Ambedkar and Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel had opposed this in the Constituent Assembly. "Do you have population data and backwardness to justify the reservation? We have no issues in providing reservation to backward communities among the Muslims, but an entire religious group cannot be given reservation," he said.

Congress member B.K. Hariprasad said that the spirit of the Constitution and fundamental rights need to be understood to understand the spirit of the Bill. It was needed to bring the community to the mainstream, said the member. Congress member Ivan D'Souza suggested that other minorities such as Jains, Christians, and Sikhs could also be moved to category 2-B to avail benefit.

Development index

Mr. Siddaramaiah, in his reply to the debate on the State Budget, had said that the Human development Index brought out by the previous BJP government in 2022 clearly indicated lower socio-economic indicators in health, education, housing, and other parameters for Muslims.

Muslims constituted 15% of the State population and ₹4,514 crore had been set aside for welfare of minorities in the Budget, which constituted 1.1% of the Budget size, he said. Referring to the Supreme Court ruling, he said Muslims are socially and educationally backward and do not have adequate representation in the civil service.

Honey-trap allegation: Ruckus in Assembly forces CM to promise probe

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Even as Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced in the Legislative Assembly that the State government will order a high-level investigation into allegations of attempts to honey-trap Ministers and leaders of political parties, the Opposition BJP staged a protest in the well of the House seeking judicial probe by a sitting judge of the High Court.

This follows allegations by Cooperation Minister K.N. Rajanna on Thursday that some vested interests had honey-trapped 48 persons, including legislators, Central leaders, and judges.

Home Minister G. Parameshwara announced that he would order a high-level probe into the issue once Mr. Rajanna gives a written complaint.

Marshals carrying away Opposition members who were protesting in the Well of the House during the Legislative Assembly session in Bengaluru on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

As soon as the House commenced proceedings, V. Sunil Kumar (BJP) raised the issue of honey-trap involving politicians and sought an answer from Mr. Siddaramaiah before his reply on the debate on the State Budget 2025-26.

Mr. Sunil Kumar said the Chief Minister should announce the nature of high-level probe and ensure protection to all members of the House. Mr. Siddaramaiah, who heads the State Intelligence, should reveal the people behind this honey-trap case, he said.

The BJP members raised slogans and tore papers before the Speaker's Chair.

Sloganeering

In the midst of this, some members even climbed the Speaker's podium and shouted slogans against the government for giving 4% quota to Muslims in government contracts under OBC category.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said there is no question of protecting anyone in the honey-trap case, and the guilty would be punished.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok said it is not an issue of any one party and called it 'the biggest conspiracy against legislators'. The Congress government had failed to protect its own Ministers, he added.

Mr. Sunil Kumar said: "There is no caste or political party for honey-trap." He urged the Chief Minister to put an end to this trend. As the House witnessed pandemonium, a couple of members of the BJP even demanded a CBI probe. JD(S) members too joined the protest.

Mr. Ashok and Mr. Sunil Kumar said PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi stated that two attempts were made to honey-trap one Minister. Mr. Rajanna's son and Congress MLC Rajendra Rajanna too informed the media about honey-trap attempts, BJP members said.

It takes two to tango: DKS

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said on Friday that people engaging in honey-traps are encouraged only when their advances receive a response.

He was speaking to media persons at Bhagamandala in Kodagu district and seemed to hint that it takes two sides for such an effort to yield result.

In reply to a question that 48 MLAs were victims of honey-trap and hence, lacked security, Mr. Shivakumar quipped sarcastically that "if you say hello, they too will respond with a hello. If you don't engage with them, nobody can force you."

His remarks seem to suggest that honeytrap cannot take place without mutual engagement. Mr. Shivakumar equated honey-trap cases to hit-and-run incidents and said that he was for swift police action.

No grace marks for class 10 students: CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah told the Legislative Assembly that no grace marks would be awarded to class 10 students who are appearing for the examination from Friday.

Making a statement on Friday, Mr. Siddaramaiah said he opposed the grace marks given last year. He said grace marks were given during the COVID-19 pandemic, but it will not be so this year.

Free transportation

He said students would be provided free transport to examination centres. Education Minister Madhu Bangarappa explained the steps taken by the government to conduct the examination without hassle.

Both Houses adjourned *sine die*

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Both Houses of the State legislature were adjourned *sine die* on Friday.

The legislature session had commenced on March 3 with the address of Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot.

The State Budget was presented on March 7 by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. In all, the session saw 15 days' sitting during which several important Bills were adopted.

CM forced to cut short reply on Budget amid adjournments, chaos

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Frequent disruptions and adjournments - after ruling and Opposition members locked horns over honey-trapping incident and an inappropriate word was used by a Congress member - plunged the Legislative Council into chaos for most part of the day even as the Budget and half a dozen Bills were passed in the midst of protest.

During the last day of the three-week-long Budget session, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah was forced to cut short his reply on the Budget as the BJP and JD(S) members entered the well of the House and raised slogans against the 4% quota to Muslims in public works. They also demanded an answer from the Chief Minister over the honey-trapping allegations made by Cooperation Minister K.N. Rajanna. Despite Chairman Basavaraj Horatti asking the Opposition to allow the Chief Minister to complete his speech, they were unrelenting.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the Legislative Council in Bengaluru on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

I am angry: CM

"We are only trustees of public money and we are committed to spending judiciously. They are not willing to listen because they fear that I will expose the Centre and the previous BJP government," Mr. Siddaramaiah said, before ending his speech abruptly as BJP members displaying CDs and posters sought an investigation by a sitting judge or the CBI. "Mr. Rajanna is a Minister and he has not named anyone. We will institute a high-level inquiry," Mr. Siddaramaiah said.

Earlier, Congress member Puttanna's remark against Leader of the Opposition in the Council Chalavadi Narayanaswamy during the Budget discussion, triggered a slugfest. Though Mr. Horatti expunged the remark, the Opposition insisted that Mr. Puttanna be sent out of the House. "He is a habitual offender. We insist that he be sent out of the house," Mr. Narayanswamy said.

Despite request, Mr. Puttanna refused to apologise stating that he had said nothing derogatory. When he finally relented and offered a "conditional apology" asking Mr. Horatti to go through video footages and make an announcement, BJP members were not satisfied.

Finally, on the request of the Chairman, the Opposition went back to their seats.

On Dalits

In the morning, the statement of Congress member Sudham Das that Dalits would not support the BJP anymore triggered a row, resulting in heated exchange of words for over half an hour, during which Mr. Horatti did not intervene and let the cacophony prevail.

When he intervened, the verbal attacks still continued, forcing him to adjourn the House.

BEFORE THE HON'BLE 73rd ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, MAYO HALL BENGALURU (CCH-74)
P & SC NO. 25005/2025
BETWEEN:1. Mrs. Ayesha Siddiqua Aged about 35 years, W/o Late I B Akramulla Khan,
2. Mr. Azeemulla Khan Aged about 13 years, S/o Late I B Akramulla Khan,
3. Mr. Asadulla Khan Aged about 11 years, S/o Late I B Akramulla Khan, Petitioner No.2 & 3 are minors Rep. by their Natural Guardian Mother Mrs. Ayesha Siddiqua i.e. Petitioner No.1 herein.
All are residing at No.1324, 1st Stage, 3rd Block, HBR Layout, Bangalore North, Arabic College, Bangalore-560045. ...PETITIONERS
AND:NIL ...RESPONDENT
PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereas the Petitioners above-named has filed the above petition under Section 372 of the Indian Succession Act seeking for an order to grant Succession Certificate in favour of the Petitioners for the death claim of deceased Mr.Akramulla Khan.I.B who died on 15.05.2021 at Bengaluru.
The Hon'ble Court has fixed on 24.04.2025 at 11.00 A.M. for hearing of the said petition. Any person Interested in the matter may enter appearance on the said date and file their objections if any failing which, the court shall proceed further in the matter.
SCHEDULE
To, claim of provident fund of AKRAMULLA KHAN.I.B working at mango Science, Bengaluru.
Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 14th day of March 2025.
By Order of the Court
Sd/- Deputy Registrar
City Civil Court,
Mayo Hall Unit, Bengaluru
Advocate for the petitioners
MAKBUL PASHA. M.D Advocate
Mob:8861810750

Palace Bill passed again in both Houses with modifications

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State legislature on Friday passed the Bangalore Palace (Utilisation and Regulation of Land) (Amendment) Bill, 2025, bringing in modification to an earlier Bill cleared by both Houses.

While the Legislative Assembly had cleared the Bill on March 6, the Legislative Council had cleared it on March 10.

The Bill meant to replace an Ordinance earlier promulgated gives more power to the State government in deciding on the extent of land to be taken from the Bangalore Palace for infrastructure development and issues related to compensation.

Compensation

It comes in the wake of the Supreme Court asking the government to compensate the erstwhile Mysuru royal family with TDR worth ₹3,400 crore for 15 acres and 17.50 guntas of land in the Bangalore Palace ground.

Government sources said that the amendment Bill was moved on Friday following developments in the Supreme Court on Thursday. Sources said that three changes were suggested by the advocates based on the Supreme Court observation, and hence, the amendment was moved. Both Houses of the legislature cleared the Bill again.

The Bill gives more power to the State government in deciding the extent of land to be taken from Bangalore Palace for infrastructure development and issues related to compensation. FILE PHOTO

Government of Karnataka.
(PANCHAYAT RAJ ENGINEERING DEPTARTMENT)
Office of the Executive Engineer P.R.E. Division Bidar.
No: EE/PRED/BDR/TS-2/2024-25/ 2300 Date: 19.03.2025
INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDERS
On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, The Executive Engineer, P.R.E. Division Bidar invites Tenders from eligible Tenderers, for 11 works approved under 5054-03-337-0-75-422 SCP & TSP schemes as per KW-01 & 03 in One Cover & Two Cover System. Amount put to tender for the works are Minimum Rs. 4,61,191.68 (Rupees Four Lakhs Sixty One Thousand One Hundred Ninety One and paise sixty eight only) & Maximum Rs. 83,97,595.09 (Rupees Eighty Three Lakhs Ninety Seven Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Five and paise nine only) Tender documents may be downloaded from the KPPP portal of the Govt. of Karnataka Viz. http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Tenders must be submitted through KPPP portal on 20.03.2025 to or before 16.00 hours up to 04.04.2025 Technical Bid will be opened on 05.04.2025 & Financial Bid will be opened on 09.04.2025 respectively. Further any other information can be seen from the KPPP portal or can be had from the undersigned.
Sd/- Executive Engineer
P.R.E.Division Bidar
DIPR/Bidar/452/KSMC&A/2024-25

BJP accuses Cong. of doing 'contract jihad' in Karnataka

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The BJP on Friday accused the Congress of doing "contract jihad" in Karnataka, stating that a Bill extending 4% reservation to the Muslim community in government contracts was passed in the State Assembly.

At a press conference, BJP MP and national spokesperson Sambit Patra alleged that the Congress was using appeasement in a bid to achieve its political ambitions and it was creating a division in the country.

Mr. Patra said: "This 4% Muslim reservation has been given under the OBC category... this is an infringement of the rights of OBCs of the country. All the communities from the OBC, ST, and SC communities should unite in solidarity against the decision of the Karnataka government and Rahul Gandhi".

"This year's Karnataka Budget seemed more like a "Muslim" Budget, in which provisions for ₹6,000 monthly allowance has been made for Imams; 4% reservation in public construction contracts; ₹50,000 assistance to Muslims for marriage; ₹150 crore for the development and upkeep of Waqf properties and graveyards; ₹100 crore for Urdu schools; ₹50 lakh for Muslim cultural programmes; ITI colleges in Muslim majority areas; and 50% fee waiver for Muslim students...", the BJP leader said.

Delimitation meet start of a historic movement: Stalin

Redrawing boundaries of constituencies will erode essence of democracy, says Tamil Nadu CM

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Friday said if Tamil Nadu and other States lost representation in Parliament owing to the upcoming delimitation, it would strike at the very foundation of federalism.

In a video message on X, ahead of the first joint action meeting on delimitation on Saturday, the Chief Minister said: "It [delimitation] will erode the essence of democracy itself..."

"This is a defining moment in our collective journey. This is more than a meeting. It is the beginning of a movement that will shape the future of our country. Together, we will achieve #FairDelimitation!" Mr. Stalin said. What began as Tamil Nadu's initiative had now grown into a national movement with States across the country coming together for fair representation, he said.

Crucial consensus: The meeting is not just about the number of MPs, it is about the rights of States, said Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

According to him, the meeting would be a historic day for Indian federalism. "I extend my warmest welcome to the leaders from Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, West Bengal, and Punjab who are joining us for the Joint Action Committee meeting on #FairDelimitation," the Chief Minister said. In the video, Mr. Stalin explained why the DMK government was organising the meeting and the first round of discussions in Chennai.

"Fair Delimitation. This is the talk of the town right now. Why has the DMK brought this into focus? Because by 2026, delimitation will happen. And if it is done on the basis of population, our representation in Parliament will be severely affected. That is why we first raised the voice," he said.

"This is not just about the number of MPs. This is about the rights of States. That is why we convened a meeting with all the parties in Tamil Nadu... Our voices in Parliament will be silenced. This is nothing short of a deliberate attempt at undermining certain States," Mr. Stalin added.

Three stabbed as student groups clash in Kerala

The Hindu Bureau
KOZHIKODE

The Kerala Police took into custody three Class X students in connection with the stabbing of three other students who sustained serious injuries following a violent altercation between student groups at P.T.M. Higher Secondary School at Thazhekode in, Malappuram district, on Friday.

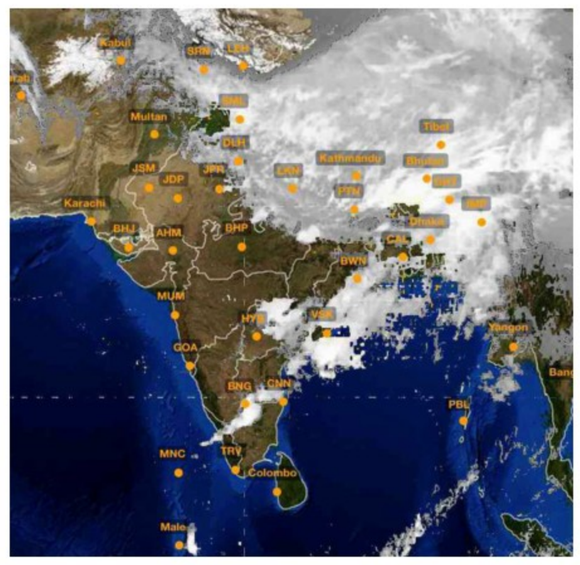
The incident occurred in the afternoon after the SSLC examination when students of English and Malayalam medium classes of the school got into a fight. One of the students stabbed three others with a sharp object. The victims sustained injuries to their heads and hands. Two of them have been admitted to Government Medical College Hospital, Manjeri, while the other has been admitted to the district hospital in Perinthalmanna.

There are reports that tension was brewing between the two groups of students for some time and that the student who stabbed his schoolmates was under suspension for his aggressive behaviour. He was earlier warned by the police and had been in the school only for the examination.

Perinthalmanna sub-inspector Shijo C. Thankachan said two students had sustained grave injuries to the head. The circumstances that led to the stabbing would be investigated. The students as well as their parents were questioned.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe. Thunderstorm with gusty winds/lightning likely at isolated places over Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, interior Karnataka and Lakshadweep

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	0.2	28.2	22.7	Kozhikode	—	36.0	27.4
Ahmedabad	—	37.2	23.0	Kurnool	—	39.0	25.7
Aizawl	—	28.8	15.2	Lucknow	—	34.4	17.6
Allahabad	—	36.7	19.6	Madurai	—	35.2	25.8
Bengaluru	—	33.2	21.5	Mangaluru	—	33.6	25.2
Bhopal	—	34.9	17.0	Mumbai	—	34.0	22.7
Bhubaneswar	—	34.5	24.2	Mysuru	—	34.0	20.4
Chandigarh	—	32.2	15.8	New Delhi	—	32.8	16.5
Chennai	—	35.2	25.7	Patna	—	28.1	22.8
Coimbatore	—	35.7	23.8	Port Blair	0.2	32.0	27.3
Dehradun	—	30.0	13.8	Puducherry	—	34.1	27.2
Gangtok	—	16.5	12.1	Pune	—	38.4	22.5
Goa	—	35.0	25.0	Raipur	—	36.0	25.8
Guwahati	—	29.9	17.5	Ranchi	0.4	24.5	18.7
Hubballi	—	36.0	22.0	Shillong	—	21.2	11.6
Hyderabad	—	35.8	22.6	Shimla	—	23.4	12.8
Imphal	—	26.2	16.8	Srinagar	—	20.2	3.0
Jaipur	—	34.0	20.8	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.8	26.2
Kochi	—	33.4	28.2	Tiruchi	—	36.5	25.0
Kohima	4	25.1	14.0	Vijayawada	—	37.2	24.5
Kolkata	—	32.2	23.8	Visakhapatnam	—	32.6	24.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.32	..65	28	 97	91	
Bengaluru	.22	..34	17	... 141	...100	
Chennai	.15	..10	67	 30	52	
Delhi	.20	..46	13	... 202	...246	
Hyderabad	...6	..84	..8	... 101	87	
Kolkata	.10	..27	23	... 122	...112	
Lucknow	.11	..49	65	... 108	...115	
Mumbai	...2	..37	17	 76	...134	
Pune	..—	..90	56	 80	...116	
Visakhapatnam	...9	..45	24	 28	70	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Byrnihat, Assam recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 401 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 19

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Row over Veena's failed plan to meet Nadda

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Health Minister Veena George's visit to New Delhi to meet the Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda, ostensibly to discuss the issue of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) agitation, erupted into a full-blown controversy on Friday, with various political parties, the media, and ASHAs themselves giving their own interpretations of the failed visit.

Ms. George who was in New Delhi on March 20 to meet Mr. Nadda, returned to Kerala without meeting him.

Some sections of the media and other political parties questioned her apparently "ill-planned" Delhi visit and whether she had sought permission through proper channels and fixed an appointment with Mr. Nadda before making a beeline to Delhi.

A.P. to form trust for Venkateswara temples

The Hindu Bureau
TIRUMALA

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Friday unveiled plans to establish a dedicated trust for the construction of Lord Venkateswara temples across the country.

He said the modalities, including the structure of the trust as well as its funding mechanisms, will soon be formalised. Urging the philanthropists to contribute for the noble cause, he said the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) would also contribute its share.

There are seven temples in the State with an annual income exceeding ₹20 crore, 13 temples with over ₹5 crore in annual revenue and several others generating more than ₹1 crore annually. These temples will be systematically developed, he said.

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in, (Contact No. 96461-17604, 96461-17659)

Tender ENQUIRY no. 1780 FE&T/O&M/PC-2652 Dated: 20/03/2025

Chief Engineer **O&M (P&P Cell-II), GHTP,** Lehra Mohabbat-151111 Distt. Bathinda invites E-Tender for the **Procurement of Agro Residue-based Biomass Non-Torrefied Pellets for GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat.** Quantity as per NIT. For detailed NIT & tender Specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 20-03-2025 17:00 hrs. onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

GHTP - 20/25 **76155/12/4040/2023/42832**

PANCHAYATHRAJ ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
Ramanagara Jilla Panchayath,
Office of the Executive Engineer Division, Ramanagara.

Term Tender Notification No. : 33/EE/PRED/RMG/JE/ 1627-1636/2024-25 Date : 20-03-2025

TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Only through E-procurement System)

The Executive Engineer, Panchayathraj Engineering Division, Ramanagara, invites the Itemwise tender. Contractors registered in **KPWD,** enrolled in **PRED / PWD** Licence for the works under Deferent Head of Account.

1) Minimum Tender Amount Rs. 39.73 Lakhs. Maximum Tender Amount Rs. 163.68 Lakhs, 2) Tender Last Date for Submission of Tender Dated : 29-03-2025 by 5.00 p.m., 3) Opening of the Tender Dated : 01-04-2025 at 5.30 p.m., 4) Opening of the Financial Tender Dated : 03-04-2025 by 5.30 p.m. on wards.

For details & further information visit the **Website : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or Contact this Office in Office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
P. R. E. Division, Ramanagara.

DIPR/Ramanagar/669/Manipal/2024-25

Karnataka Public works Department.
Tumkur Division, Karnataka Telephone: 0816-2272479,
No;EE/KPWD/Tmk/JE.3/T.No.51/2024-25 Dt: 19.03.2025

Invitation For Short Term Tenders (IFT) KW-4
e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

On behalf of Government of Karnataka tenders are invited in Two cover system for Class-1,2 & 3 above Contractors registered in PWD for 02 works under 5054 MDR Improvements & S H Improvements Head of accounts in the jurisidiction of Tumkur Division through KPPP-Portal(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).The dates are published as below. (Maximum amount Put to Tender Rs.219.47Lakhs, Minimum amount Put to Tender Rs.159.78 Lakhs, Maximum EMD Amt Rs.3,29,211/-, Minimum EMD Amt Rs.2,39,673/-) 1. Last date for tender information enqueries : 27-03-2025 : 17.00 2. Last date for submission of tender: 28-03-2025: 16.00 3. Date of opening the Technical bid: 29-03-2025 : 16.30. 4. Date of opening the Financial bid: 01-04-2025 : 17.00. Note: Turnover Certificate without UDI Number will not be considered.

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
PWD DIVISION, TUMKUR.

DIPR/TUM/719/KSMCA/2024-25

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Sarvagnanagara Division, 7th Floor, P.U. Building, M.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 001.

No: E.E.(SGN)/KPPP/Tend/19/2024-25 **Date: 20.03.2025**

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover system) (Through e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer (Sarvagnanagara Division), East Zone, BBMP, invites tenders from eligible contractors registered in BBMP/KPWD/CPWD/Railways/MES/National Highway or any state Govt. Organization for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Removal of Silt, debris and ward Maintenance works in Ward No.79 Kadugondanahalli for the year 2024-25 (Call-02) **Approximate Value of work: Rs.30.00 Lakhs. EMD:** Rs. 60,000/-. **Cost of Tender Form in Rs.(Non-refundable) inclusive of VAT:** As per E-Procurement Portal **(Others) Period of Completion:** 365 Days.
2	Removal of Silt, debris and ward Maintenance works in Ward No.85 Maruthisevanagara for the year 2024-25 (Call-02) **Approximate Value of work: Rs.30.00 Lakhs. EMD:** Rs. 60,000/-. **Cost of Tender Form in Rs.(Non-refundable) inclusive of VAT:** As per E-Procurement Portal **(Others) Period of Completion:** 365 Days.

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents may be downloaded from e-Procurement Portal of GOK **from 24.03.2025, 4.00 p.m. onwards.** (2) Last date for uploading the Filled Tender Document : **01.04.2025 upto 4.00 p.m.** (3) Date of Opening of Technical Bid Tenders is on: **02.04.2025, 4.30 p.m. if possible or Next working day.**

Further details can be had from the office of the above during office hours on all working days or visit KPP Portal website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Sarvagnanagara Division, BBMP

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ

ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 22/2024-25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07.03.2025

ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ-III ರ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟಂತೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ದ್ವಿ-ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ (Double Cover System) ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ವಿವಿಧ ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಯಡಿ ಕೆಳಗೆ ನಮೂದಿಸಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸೂಕ್ತ ದರ್ಜೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿರುವ ಅಧಿಕೃತ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಇಲಾಖಾ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಜಿಯನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೋರಲಾಗಿದೆ. (1) E-procurement ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಹಾಗೂ ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್-ಬಿ ಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07.04.2025ರ 16.30 ರವರೆಗೆ.(2)** ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 08.04.2025 ರಂದು 16.35 ನಂತರ. (3)** ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09.04.2025 ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.30 ನಂತರ (ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾದಲ್ಲಿ). (4)** ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ (ಹಿಂದಿರುಗಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ): E-procurement ನಿಯಮಾನುಸಾರ.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು,
ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ. ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ/ಆರ್.ಓ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:433/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2024-25

KARNATAKA URBAN WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
'JAL BHAVAN', No. 6, 1st Stage, 1st Phase, BTM Layout
Bannerghatta Main Road, Bengaluru - 560 029
Ph : 080 - 4110 6508
e-mail:cekwbbng@gmail.com Website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPPP only)

No. KWB/TEC/CE(B)/GUBBI OHT/1338/2024-25 Dtd: 20/3/2025

Name of the work : "Construction of 5.0 LL Capacity on 15M Staging RCC Over Head tank (Shaft type) and other allied works in front of Government Hospital in Gubbi town under DC works of Gubbi town. (Lumpsum tender -No Variation) **KUWSDB/2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT 328**

For further details may be obtained through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/5837/AKAR/2024-25

Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER (B),
KUWS & D BOARD, Bengaluru

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಮಂಡ್ಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ-571 401
ಜಿಪಂಮಂ/ಪಿಡಿ/ಸಂಜೀವಿನಿ/HRಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ/ಸಿಆರ್-63/2024-25
ದಿ:20-03-2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಎನ್.ಆರ್.ಎಲ್.ಎಂ. ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಹಾಗೂ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಅಭಿಯಾನ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಘಟಕಗಳಡಿ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲವನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಲು ಹಾಗೂ ಅನುಮೋದಿತ ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಮಾಡುವ ಕುರಿತು ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡುವ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಂ:RDPR/2024-25/SE2290, ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 1.18 ಕೋಟಿ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 27.03.2025 ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:28.03.2025, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:29.03.2025. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಯೋಜನಾ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು (ಡಿ.ಆರ್.ಡಿ.ಎ) ಶಾಖೆ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್, ಮಂಡ್ಯ ರವರಿಂದ ಕಚೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/- ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ,
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್, ಮಂಡ್ಯ.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಸನಿ-ಮಂ/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/786/2024-25

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of General Public that our Client is intending to purchase immovable property bearing Property/Site No.04, Property No.83, Khatha No.83, new BBMP Khatha No.287/4/83, bearing EPID No.3234504495, situated at Horamavu Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, BETQ, Bengaluru, Now comes under BBMP Limits, along with building standing thereon with 3 shops in ground floor and residential house in the first and second floor, the property measuring E-W on Northern side 34 ft & Southern side 30 ft & N-S: 40 ft, in all measuring 1280 sq ft., and bounded on the: East by: Site No.05, West by:35 feet Road, North by: Site No.07 and 08, South by: 35 feet Road, from its owner **SRI. N.SHANKAR,** S/o.Sri.G.Nagaraj, No.4, 3rd Main Rd, Rajanna Layout, Hoysala Nagar, B'lore-16. Any person/s having objections to the said transactions can register their claim/s with documentary evidence with the undersigned within 15 days of publication hereof, failing which, our clients will proceed with the transactions and any claim/s received thereafter will not be entertained.

H.V.NAVEEN KUMAR RAO &
H.V.SUNIL KUMAR RAO, *ADVOCATES*
No. 57, 1st Floor, Veerapillai Street,
Bengaluru-01. Mob : 9341380225

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
6th Floor, Gate No.: 03, Room No 601 (R & I Section), M.S. Building, Bangalore-560 001

No. ED 57 UBV 2025 **Date: 21.03.2025**

SELECTION OF VICE-CHANCELLOR OF BANGALORE CITY UNIVERSITY, BANGALORE

Invitation of Application for the Post of Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore City University, Bangalore as per Section 14(5) and 14(6) of Karnataka State University Act, 2000.

The Higher Education Department, Government of Karnataka invites Applications for the Post of Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore City University, Bangalore. The application should be submitted within Thirty Days (30) from the date of this Notification. The detailed application form and the further details are available on Higher Education Department website **https://hed.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Principal Secretary to Government,
Higher Education Department

DIPR/CP/JA/5852/2024-25

Government of Karnataka
Zilla Panchayath Chamarajanagar
Office of the District Health and Family Welfare Officer
Chamarajanagar District, Chamarajanagar
Room no 312, District Complex Building, Chamarajanagar.
Ph No :08226-222421 Email : dhochamarajanagar@gmail.com

No:DHO/CHN/CV(2)/60/2024-25 Dated: 19-03-2025

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender is invited for Health Institutions under the District Health and Family Welfare Department, Chamarajanagar for the year 2025-26 for recruitment of 18-Drivers, 07-Tribal women health workers, 03-Data Entry Operator and 03-Executives Total-31 posts through E-Procurement (www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in) in Two Cover system as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act (KTPP) 1999 Rules 2000.

1. Estimated Tender value : **Rs. 57,01,869/-** 2. E.M.D. **Rs. 1,42,547/-** 3. Starting Date of uploading Tender : 20-03-2025 4. Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tender : 03-04-2025 04:30 PM 5. Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid: 04-04-2025 5:00 PM.

Sd/-
District Health and Family Welfare Officer,
Chamarajanagar District,
Chamarajanagar

DIPR: CHANAGAR:718:2024-25

Government of Karnataka
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL DEVELOPMENT PANCHAYAT RAJ ENGINEERING PROJECT DIVISION KALABURAGI

No : EE/RDPRE/PD/KLB/KKRDB /TS/TND/2024-25/1140 Date :18/03/2025

:: SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION ::
(THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT TWO COVER SYSTEM)

1) Name of work & Amount put to tender: 1) KRRDA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT193-APT- Rs. 2,20,50,075.30, 2) KRRDA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT194-APT- Rs. **3,28,73,377.60** 3) KRRDA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT195- APT-Rs. **2,81,33,337.96,** 4) KRRDA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT196-APT- **Rs. 2,40,76,582.74,** 5) KRRDA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT197-APT- Rs.**1,28,20,846.15,** 6) KRRDA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT198-APT- Rs. **84,27,933.76** 2) Head of account : **2024-25 SCP/TSP-5054 5054 CM Special Grant & SCP/TSP,** 3) Class of Contractor: Class-II & Class-III above, 4) Issue of Blank Tender Documents: **18-03-2025 to 27-03-2025 upto 4.00 pm,** 5) Tender Form Fee: As per KPPP Norms, 6) E.M.D. Fee: As Mentioned in KPPP Portal, 7) Receipt of completed tender documents: **18-03-2025 to 27-03-2025 upto 4.00 pm,** 8) Technical Bid Opening Date: **28-03-2025 After 4.01 pm,** 9) Financial Bid opening Date: **03-04-2025 After 11.00 pm,** 10) For more details contact: Office of the Executive Engineer, R.D. P.R.E. Project Division Rajapur Road Kalaburagi, 11) Website Address : **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer
R.D. P.R.E. Project Division Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/1120/KSMC&A/2024-25

Navigating differences

India and New Zealand stand to benefit from greater collaboration

At the 10th edition of the Raisina Dialogue, visiting New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon – the conference's chief guest – outlined three major geopolitical shifts shaping the world: the replacement of rules with power, the rise of security over economic considerations, and a move from trade efficiency to protectionism and resilient supply chains among trusted partners. In this context, Mr. Luxon suggested that India and New Zealand, despite their size disparity, could be ideal partners. Both democracies share an interest in ensuring freedom of navigation in the Indo-Pacific. While New Zealand is not part of the Quad (Australia, India, Japan, the United States) and does not seek membership, Mr. Luxon noted the ongoing dialogue among New Zealand, Australia, Japan and South Korea on regional issues. Following talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the two countries signed a defence Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance military cooperation, staff college exchanges, and naval port calls. They also agreed to restart talks on a free trade agreement, aiming to expand their modest bilateral trade, currently under $2 billion. However, challenges remain, particularly around market access for dairy and agricultural products, which contributed to India's decision to exit the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), of which New Zealand is a member. In contrast, New Zealand's trade with China stands at approximately $24 billion, despite broader strategic concerns. Connectivity between the two nations received a boost, with Air India and Air New Zealand signing a codeshare agreement that may also lead to the first direct flights between the countries by the end of 2028.

Despite the positive tone, Mr. Modi voiced concern over "anti-India activities by certain illegal elements" in New Zealand, referencing protests and a Khalistan referendum held by the 'Sikhs for Justice' group in Auckland last November. Although previously discussed between the Foreign Ministers, New Zealand police had ruled the protests to be lawful. In response, Mr. Luxon reaffirmed New Zealand's commitment to free expression and noted the importance of not importing foreign political conflicts into its diverse immigrant communities. While such concerns are legitimate, raising them publicly risks deepening divisions within the 3,00,000-strong Indian diaspora and overshadowing growing strategic and economic ties. These sensitive issues may be better handled through diplomatic engagement in private. Ultimately, India and New Zealand stand to benefit from greater collaboration – particularly in trade, defence, and regional stability – as two democracies that "book-end" the Indo-Pacific.

Heat plan

India must develop a comprehensive heat strategy ahead of COP30

Summer has arrived early in several parts of India. In the last week of February, heatwaves were officially reported in Goa and Maharashtra. States such as Odisha, Telangana, and Maharashtra have already recorded temperatures exceeding 40°C. Throughout most of February, 31 States and Union Territories experienced night temperatures at least 1°C above normal, with 22 States and Union Territories reporting night temperatures that were 3°C to 5°C above normal. Given that February is classified as 'winter' by the India Meteorological Department, these are signposts that point toward new climate normals. Scientists have long warned that rising global temperatures – both on land and sea – will result in more intense and frequent heatwaves. This underscores the need for countries and States to prepare for heat events just as they do for earthquakes or floods. However, a recent study by the Sustainable Futures Collaborative, which examined heat-related preparedness in nine Indian cities, found that none had long-term plans in place. Most responses are limited to short-term emergency measures such as providing drinking water, adjusting work hours, and boosting hospital capacity during heatwaves. Crucial long-term interventions such as ensuring access to household or occupational cooling for vulnerable populations, insuring workers against lost income on extremely hot days, improving fire management, and upgrading electricity grids for reliability are missing. Few cities have even begun planning for expanded local weather monitoring, mapping urban heat islands, or training those responsible for implementing heat plans. Other strategies, which include increasing green cover, creating open spaces to reduce heat, and deploying rooftop solar for active cooling, are often carried out without targeting the populations that are most at risk.

While global efforts to combat climate change largely focus on cutting greenhouse gas emissions, the limited progress on that front is shifting attention to adaptation – particularly in managing responses to heat. Affordable cooling devices are frequently recommended, but they raise concerns about increased use of ozone-depleting refrigerants. Experts now advocate having sustainable buildings, green infrastructure, and passive cooling solutions, although these too can impact land prices and urban planning. India must develop a comprehensive national heat strategy and embed it within its National Adaptation Plan ahead of the 30th UN Climate Change Conference (COP30) in Brazil in November.

India's marginalised Parliament in budgetary affairs

Vinod Bhanu

is the Executive Director of the Centre for Legislative Research and Advocacy (CLRA), New Delhi

The Budget is more than just a financial statement, as it reflects a nation's priorities, economic vision and governance philosophy. Across democracies, parliaments exercise the power of the purse, which is critical in shaping national budgets, ensuring fiscal discipline, and promoting transparency. However, in India, parliamentary influence over the Budget remains minimal. The executive-driven process side lines legislators, leaving them with little opportunity to effectively shape or scrutinise financial policies. Parliament must evolve from being a mere approver of the government's financial proposals to actively shaping economic policy. This requires critical institutional reforms, including pre-Budget discussions and establishing a Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO).

The Budget, a pillar of democracy

Budgeting is a fundamental democratic exercise that allocates public resources and defines the government's social and economic priorities. Historically, the power of the purse has been hard-won, with legislatures across the world asserting their right to oversee public finance. From the British Parliament's financial control in the 19th century to the fiscal policies of modern democracies, legislative scrutiny has been essential in preventing executive overreach.

Globally, the degree of legislative influence over budgets varies. Some parliaments actively draft and modify budget proposals, while others act as rubber stamps. Certain legislatures hold in-depth committee discussions on budgetary allocations, whereas others rely on centralised finance committees. However, one common thread remains – Budget transparency and parliamentary engagement correlate with better social outcomes and economic stability.

Parliament's role in Budget formulation and scrutiny in India is mainly ceremonial. The Finance Ministry single-handedly crafts the Budget, keeping even Cabinet Ministers uninformed until its presentation in the Lok Sabha. Unlike other legislative Bills, the Budget proposal is not subjected to thorough cabinet discussions before being introduced in Parliament. The executive monopoly over financial planning results in fragmented debates and limited oversight, weakening the core tenets of representative democracy.

> The existing budgetary process diminishes the role of elected representatives, undermining democratic accountability

Moreover, the Rajya Sabha, despite its democratic credentials, has no substantive role in Budget discussions. Ironically, while India permits a Finance Minister to be a Rajya Sabha member, they lack the ability to vote on their (own) Budget proposals in the Lok Sabha. This absence of budgetary bicameralism contrasts sharply with the British House of Lords, which wields some influence over financial legislation despite being an unelected body.

The decline of parliamentary authority over budgetary matters is evident in the poor quality and brevity of debates and the ineffective scrutiny by subject committees. Parliamentarians lack the power to amend or significantly influence budget proposals, effectively reducing their role to passive approval. This status quo is neither democratic nor conducive to accountability.

Pre-Budget discussions

Two key reforms must be implemented for Parliament to reclaim its rightful role in Budget-making: introducing pre-budget discussions and creating a Parliamentary Budget Office.

Parliament should institutionalise pre-Budget discussions during the monsoon session to ensure meaningful engagement in the Budget process. A dedicated five to seven-day discussion period would allow legislators to assess the nation's fiscal health, outline Budget priorities, and present a broad economic framework for the government's consideration. Such discussions would also encourage better coordination among subject committees, enhancing their ability to provide informed input.

Pre-Budget debates would democratise the Budget-making process, allowing elected representatives to voice public concerns, suggest equitable resource allocation, and engage in policy deliberations. More importantly, they would facilitate greater public involvement, fostering transparency and trust in financial governance.

Scepticism about active legislative involvement in budgeting often stems from concerns over fiscal discipline. Some economists argue that empowering legislatures may lead to populist spending and weakened financial prudence. However, placing unchecked faith in the executive to act in the public interest is naive. Regardless of ideology, no government has ever voluntarily ensured economic justice without oversight. A balanced approach, where the executive retains financial discretion but remains answerable to Parliament, is the hallmark of a healthy democracy.

A crucial aspect of Budget reform is in strengthening Parliament's analytical and research capabilities. India lacks an institutional mechanism that provides legislators with independent and non-partisan Budget analysis. Establishing a Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) would bridge this gap as there would be data-driven insights and expert economic forecasts. Modelled on institutions such as the U.S. Congressional Budget Office and similar bodies in Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom, a well-structured PBO in India would play a vital role in analysing government spending, revenue projections, and fiscal policies. It would conduct independent economic forecasts, assess the fiscal impact of proposed policies, and evaluate medium-term and long-term budgetary trends.

Additionally, the PBO would offer policy briefs to parliamentarians, enhancing informed decision-making. Rather than encroaching upon the executive's role, it would complement it by ensuring legislative scrutiny is backed by objective research. Such an institution would significantly enhance Parliament's capacity to hold the government accountable and foster evidence-based policy discussions.

Reclaiming parliamentary authority

The current budgetary process diminishes the role of elected representatives, undermining democratic accountability. By integrating pre-Budget discussions and establishing a PBO, Parliament can transition from being a passive recipient of financial proposals to an active budget-influencing institution.

These reforms are procedural adjustments and fundamental steps towards strengthening representative democracy. They would ensure public finance decisions reflect collective deliberation rather than executive fiat. A robust parliamentary engagement in budgeting would ultimately lead to more equitable economic policies, greater transparency, and a financial governance framework that genuinely serves the people's interests.

Charting a route for IORA under India's chairship

Pooja Bhatt

is an Associate Professor at O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonepat and teaches maritime geopolitics and regional institutions

The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) is an apex regional organisation that promotes open regionalism between the countries of Asia, Africa and Australia, connected via Indian Ocean waters. As the Indian leadership prepares to step up to chair IORA from November 2025 – it is now Vice-Chair – it can bring impetus to increased resilience in its governance structure. As IORA chair for the next two years, India will have three priorities: creating funding opportunities to enlarge IORA's budget; integrating technology for data management and policy analysis, and creating maritime-ready courses with academic and research institutions using collaborations.

The Indian Ocean Region and IORA

Geostrategically, the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) is a subset of the Indo-Pacific, yet unique. The Indian Ocean, home to two-thirds of humanity, has a rich and diverse marine life. It also transports 75% of global trade and 50% of daily oil consumption. It produces $1 trillion in goods and services, and its intra-IORA trade was $800 billion in 2023. However, this region is also marred by poor development, troubled political systems, climate change-induced disasters, and environmental degradation. It also faces security challenges such as piracy, terrorism, and human and drug trafficking. These supranational issues compel the regional countries to cooperate and find workable solutions.

Therefore, as one of the oldest regional inter-governmental organisations, IORA has been working to further cooperation among its members by facilitating dialogue on cultural and academic exchanges and crucial issues such as disaster risk management. While the United States, China and the European Union are IORA's dialogue partners, it is mainly driven by only middle and small powers and, therefore, requires a tour de force to become more relevant.

> New Delhi must strengthen the foundation for meaningful and ground-level governance

Issues faced by IORA

The Indian Ocean region is relatively free of the great power competition yet has its own set of challenges, including funding. IORA's annual budget is member-dependent. Barring Singapore, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and France, the member-states are developing Asian and African economies. The budget is indicated to be just a few million. Incidentally, the Indian Ocean Commission, which has only five IO countries, has a $1.3 billion budget for the 2020-25 time frame. Thus, the funds generated fall short of achieving IORA's growing areas of engagement such as maritime safety and security, fisheries management, disaster risk management, technology and innovation, and the blue economy.

Notably, each of these pillars is resource-intensive and requires constant engagement. One way to generate more funds would be to include private players as consultative partners as they are some of the biggest players in the maritime domain. From shipping companies to marine-related industries such as oil and gas, and marine tourism, these industries are relevant to the blue economy. These industries can be involved in maritime policy-making and also contribute to the IORA fund. The IORA has a small Secretariat with limited staff based in Mauritius. Since government-based structures and institutions have limited bandwidth for data processing, technology can be a big help in improving governance. Accounting for data is laborious with a large margin of error, and quick and efficient policy analysis would be made easier with digitised record keeping.

Other suggestions for India

India's Security and Growth for All (SAGAR) vision complements IORA's objectives and must leverage its excellent relations with IORA member-states to develop workable solutions. IORA members, such as Australia, have made significant contributions to research in marine science and technology. France and Singapore, have their strength in marine-related technologies, and the UAE and Oman can contribute through investments in sectors where IORA seeks help. Traditional knowledge that exists in coastal and small island nations (Sri Lanka, Seychelles, Mauritius) should be mainstreamed for developing sustainable methods of marine governance. To further productive outcomes, IORA needs sustained and improved collaborative avenues.

Lastly, as marine and maritime-related employment opportunities will only multiply, industrial leaders should collaborate with educational and research institutions to provide problem statements and seek solutions, and to create newer, industry-related courses. Marine accounting is an interdisciplinary course that could help create a base for a blue economy. With the available talent in the region, scholars and practitioners are most likely to work out solutions.

IORA holds immense promise for regional prosperity and India must use its leadership to overcome the existing issues at the institutional level.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Issue of transparency

It is inexplicable as to why any data relating to the conduct of elections should be kept away from the reach of voters/citizens, after the declaration of results (Editorial, March 21). In our secret ballot system of voting (now voting on EVMs), one can never know who voted for whom in an election, even if the entire data on elections is disclosed by the Election Commission of India. If the collation and compilation of data is systematic and without any errors, no controversy can arise from the scrutiny of data. It is the responsibility of the ECI to ensure that the voter turnout data reported from election booths is accurate and the final data released at the end matches with the data declared on polling day. In this era of instant communications and technology, data transmission from booth level to the State capital and from there to the ECI should not be difficult.

Kosaraju Chandramouli,
Hyderabad

Playing with fire

Today it is Aurangzeb in Nagpur. Tomorrow it may be Mysuru and Srirangapatnam in Karnataka. A spark may ignite a bigger fire. Petty political leaders are stoking communal fires and this is not good for India. Rulers must think again before they try to reopen history books.

Baru Rajendra Prasad,
Hyderabad

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO
MARCH 22, 1925

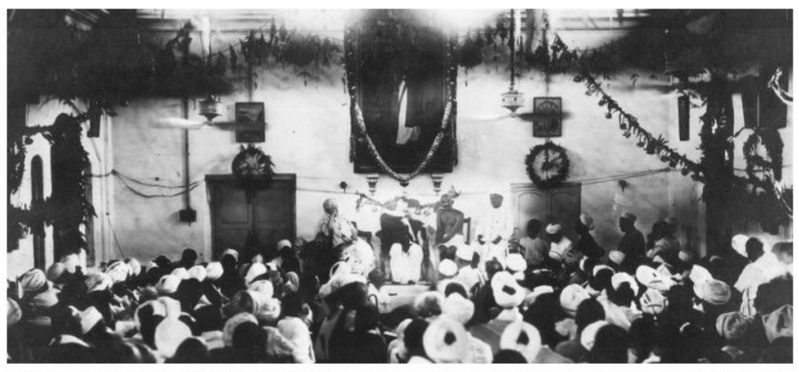
The Late Mr. Kasturi Ranga Iyengar

Mahatmaji Unveils Portrait

MARCH 23, 1925: *The Hindu* had the honour of receiving Mahatma Gandhi in its offices, in Mount Road, yesterday afternoon [March 22] on the occasion of the unveiling by him of the portrait of the late Mr. S. Kasturi Ranga Iyengar. The function was simple and impressive, and was largely attended by representatives of the various communities.

Mahatmaji's Speech: The Work Before Journalists

... I have never been tired of reiterating to journalists whom I know that journalism should never be prostituted for selfish ends or for the sake of merely earning a livelihood or, worse still, for amassing money. Journalism, to be useful and serviceable to the country will take its definite place only when it becomes unselfish and when it devotes its best for the service of the country and whatever happens to the editors or to the journal itself, editors would express the views of our country irrespective of consequences. I think that we have in our midst the making of journalism of that character. "*The Hindu*" is one of those few newspapers which can do so. It has acquired a prestige which is all its own. Let me therefore hope that the present managers and the editorial staff of "*The Hindu*" will continue to follow the best traditions and may I also add that the best way of glorifying one's inheritance is not merely to keep it intact but to add to it.



Mahatma Gandhi at The Hindu office in Mount Road, Madras, after unveiling the portrait of the newspaper's (late) Editor, S. Kasturi Ranga Iyengar, on March 22, 1925. On the dais are (from left) Dr. Annie Besant, Rt. Hon. V.S. Srinivasa Sastri and S. Srinivasa Iyengar. Photo: Press Photo Bureau THE HINDU PHOTO ARCHIVES

Protesters set fire to vehicles in Nagpur on March 17. PTI

A riot over a long-dead emperor's tomb

On March 17, tensions escalated in Nagpur when protesters demanding the demolition of Mughal emperor Aurangzeb's tomb allegedly burnt a *chadar*. A mob attacked homes, set vehicles on fire, and went on a rampage. **Abhinay Deshpande** and **Purnima Sah** report on the controversy over an emperor who died more than 300 years ago, and trace how communal flames were fanned in Maharashtra

On the evening of March 17, Mohammed Aslam, a 61-year-old realtor, was sitting in his office with his son, 31-year-old Sohil Shaikh, in the Motha Taj Bagh area of Nagpur in Maharashtra, when he got a call from his wife, Shakeela Banu.

Banu sounded really scared, recalls Aslam. "She said riots were taking place near our house and asked us to come home immediately. But minutes later, she urged us to stay put saying the situation had worsened," he says.

Aslam's home is 15 kilometres from his office in Mahal. His is the only Muslim family in the neighbourhood. His house is located barely a kilometre from Dr. Hedgewar Bhawan, the headquarters of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). The RSS is the ideological fountainhead of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which is the ruling party both at the Centre and in Maharashtra.

Defying Banu's warning, Aslam and Shaikh rushed back, parked their car a few blocks away, and ran towards their house. They recall standing like human shields at the centre of the violence, pleading for calm, as hundreds of people hurled stones and abuses at each other, and torched vehicles. "With our hands raised, we kept screaming, 'Stop, stop, stop!'" says Aslam.

"We didn't think twice," says Sohil. "The rioters, who were Muslim, were not from our area and didn't recognise us. They began attacking us, too. They broke my phone and the CCTV cameras, and threw stones at our house."

Aslam says, "Hindus then started throwing stones in defence, so we had to control both sides." Aslam, who has spent his whole life in Mahal, says he has never seen communal strife in the area.

According to the police, early that morning, members of the Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP), a right-wing organisation; and the Bajrang Dal, its youth wing, assembled at Chitnis Park Chowk in Mahal. They demanded that the tomb of the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb, which dates back to the 17th century AD and which is located 500 km away in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar district, be demolished.

Aurangzeb, who had tortured and executed the second ruler of the Maratha empire, Chhatrapati (protector of the people) Sambhaji Maharaj, died more than 300 years ago. Sambhaji Maharaj was the son of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, the founder of the Maratha empire in the Indian subcontinent.

While there were similar protests taking place elsewhere in Maharashtra, the protests in Nagpur took a violent turn when demonstrators set fire to a *chadar* (cloth). The police say this was inscribed with verses from the Quran. This angered Muslims. Hundreds of people then started attacking homes with stones, petrol bombs, and sticks. As tensions flared, 33 police personnel and five civilians sustained injuries.

The colours of violence

Saffron flags flutter from the rooftops of homes and establishments in Mahal. A day after the incident, fading streaks of pink, yellow, and blue powder cover the roads and walls. These are the remnants of Holi, which was celebrated three days before the riots, on March 14.

> It is always the poor and jobless youth who are pushed to the front of these protests. And they are the ones who die or get injured, not the people who ignite the flames
>
> **NISAR AHMAD**
> Senior caretaker of Aurangzeb's tomb

The signs of rampage are also evident everywhere. Blackened cars and two-wheelers lie damaged, with their frames twisted. There are stones and cement blocks on the streets and a faint smell of ash in the air.

Shaikh's neighbour, Swati Prashanth Dahikar, who runs a boutique, recalls what she describes as the "most terrifying moments of her life".

"I get goosebumps just talking about the incident. I couldn't sleep the entire night, fearing something else might happen," says Dahikar, who remembers trying to protect herself and her 21-year-old daughter, Astha, from the rioters.

"The mob threw our air cooler and started hurling stones and glass through the window. They kicked our doors and hit them with sticks and rods. Some of the rioters were on foot, some were on bikes, and all of them had covered their faces. Though it all lasted less than 10 minutes, it was simply frightening," says Dahikar, sitting in the hall of her house, which also functions as a workshop for her business. She trembles while pointing to the video footage of the violence that plays out on a Marathi news channel on TV.

According to Dahikar and the police, the mob entered the neighbourhood around 7.30 p.m., carrying bags filled with stones, and small packets and bottles of petrol. "As soon as some men from our locality gathered together and started throwing stones and sticks back in defence, the mob retreated," says Dahikar.

The rioters moved from Mahal to Hansapuri, another area in Nagpur. Seema Gupta, a homemaker, says they came to her house, just 4 km away from Dahikar's house, in Hansapuri, at around 10.30 p.m.

Gupta says her multi-storey building had been partially demolished as part of a road-widening project some time ago. "The rioters caused another round of destruction," she says, pointing to charred portions outside her house. "They set on fire more than a dozen vehicles parked in front of my house. We were terrified that the flames would spread inside."

Residents claim that the police were unprepared to handle the riots. "The police came late, and when they did, they did not seem equipped to control the situation. They took refuge in our homes. At least six officers were inside my house while the rioters were roaming the streets," says Sunil Peshne, a farmer who lives in Chitnis Park and whose car was torched by the mob.

Police personnel prepare for iftaar inside the dargah complex in Khuldabad in Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar. EMMANUAL YOGINI

A film, an emperor, and a tomb

The day after the riots, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, a legislator from the Nagpur South West Assembly constituency, held the Hindi film, *Chhaava*, depicting the life of Sambhaji Maharaj, responsible for the violence. Speaking in the State Assembly, he said the film's graphic portrayal of Aurangzeb's torture of Sambhaji Maharaj had "fuelled public anger" against the Mughal emperor. "This looks like it was a well-planned attack. People should not take law and order into their hands," he said.

Chhaava hit the theatres on February 14 and has grossed more than ₹550 crore at the box office till date. The film, directed by Laxman Utekar, sparked extreme reactions from the audience. In one video that went viral on social media, a man was seen vandalising a cinema screen during an emotional moment in the film. Another video showed a fan riding a horse into a theatre, chanting "Har Har Mahadev!"

Criticising the film for being "historically inaccurate", Samajwadi Party MP Abu Azmi first triggered controversy on March 3 while talking to the media in the Assembly premises. He said that Aurangzeb was not a "cruel administrator" and had "constructed many temples". The Mumbai Police registered a case against him. Azmi was suspended from the Assembly for the Budget session.

But the anger did not die down. On March 7, a descendant of Shivaji Maharaj, Udayanraje Bhosale, who is a Lok Sabha MP from Satara, called for the demolition of Aurangzeb's tomb while speaking to the media in Satara. A few days later, Fadnavis said at an event that while they all share the same sentiment (as Bhosale), the tomb is a protected monument of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and any action to remove it must comply with legal procedures.

Responding to the Chief Minister's latest statement that the riots were provoked by *Chhaava*, the Maharashtra president of the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) party, Imtiaz Jaleel, says, "*Chhaava* was promoted by the government. The entire Maharashtra Cabinet was taken to the theatre to watch the film. Now Mr. Fadnavis is blaming the film for the violence. There are so many important topics that need to be discussed, but Parliament and the State Assembly are busy discussing Aurangzeb. When the BJP is in power in both the Centre and the State, why are they playing such dirty politics?"

A driver in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar district, where Aurangzeb's tomb lies, says he took his 10-year-old son to watch the film because he believes that it is important for every Marathi to know the story. He says, "My son was agitated after watching the film. I told him this is just a story from the past. But when he grows up, he must decide what side he takes."

Putting out fires

As violence escalated in Nagpur, which is represented by the Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, in the Lok Sabha, the police imposed a curfew in 11 areas.

On March 20, they partially lifted the curfew. Nagpur Police Commissioner Ravinder Singal says the police have filed 13 First Information Reports and arrested 99 people so far, including Fahim Khan, the city head of the Minority Democratic Party. Khan has been accused of sedition and spreading misinformation on social media during the unrest. The police allege that a woman constable was molested during the violence.

The police say restoring normalcy was their top priority not only because Nagpur is the headquarters of the RSS, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, or because it is represented by Fadnavis and Gadkari, but also because Prime Minister Narendra Modi is visiting the district on March 30, on the occasion of Gudipadva, the first day of the Hindu calendar. Modi will lay the foundation stone for the Madhav Eye Hospital, an RSS-backed initiative. He is also likely to go to the Hedgewar Smruti Mandir, a memorial dedicated to K.B. Hedgewar and M.S. Golwalkar, leaders of the RSS. This will mark his first visit to the site since becoming Prime Minister and the first visit to the site by any sitting Prime Minister.

> My son was agitated after watching the film 'Chhaava'. I told him this is just a story from the past. But when he grows up, he must decide what side he takes
>
> A driver from Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar district

While the VHP has denied any involvement in the burning of the *chadar*, the police say they have video evidence. Local leaders also allege that protesters set the *chadar* on fire. However, Fadnavis denied in the Assembly that any cloth with Quranic verses was burnt.

In a video message, VHP general secretary Milind Parande said, "Houses of Bajrang Dal workers were attacked. The Muslim mob targeted many houses of the Hindu community and even women were not spared. We condemn all this strongly. It is extremely shameful that on one hand, the lie was spread that the Hindu community had burnt the verses of the holy book of a community and on the other hand, a despicable attempt was made to incite violence." He added that strict action should be taken against all anti-social elements.

Shakib ur Rehman, a leader of the AIMIM from Nagpur, says, "As Muslims, we have no objections to people burning effigies of Aurangzeb. But why target the *chadar*, which is inscribed with verses from the Quran?"

Although the State government labelled the violence as "pre-planned," the police say they managed to contain it in a few hours and prevent it from spilling over into other parts of the city. According to a senior police official, the police force across the State remained on high alert to ensure that the unrest did not spread to other cities and towns, especially Sambhajinagar.

At the heart of the controversy

In Khuldabad town in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar district lies Aurangzeb's austere tomb, at the heart of the controversy, surrounded by barricades. It is March 19. District Superintendent of Police (Rural), Vinay Kumar Rathod, says security has increased over the last eight days. Tourists continue to trickle in. Later that day, the tomb was covered by the ASI with tin sheets.

Police and State Reserve Police Force personnel, ASI staff, and home guards with vans outside the property are all on duty. "There is no conflict here, but we have to be on duty. Prevention is better than cure," says a SRPF member.

Rathod says, "We have restricted tourists and visitors from offering flowers at the tomb. From March 19 to April 18, we have banned the use of drones in the area."

Every day, the security personnel deployed here participate in *sehri* (the morning meal eaten by Muslims before the sun comes up during Ramadan) and *iftari* (evening meal at the time of Ramadan) with the tomb's caretakers and workers.

Parvez Kabir Ahmed, a 31-year-old caretaker of the tomb, is a *khadim* (priest). Ahmed's family has taken care of the tomb for six generations. "Aurangzeb was born in 1618 in Dahod (now Gujarat) and passed away in 1707. His body was brought here. He did not want any tomb over his *mazaar* (shrine) and wanted to be laid here like an ordinary man, under the open sky," he says. "In 1921, Lord Curzon, the British Viceroy of India, was disappointed when he visited the tomb and asked the Nizam of Hyderabad to beautify it with a marble floor and marble lattice screen."

In the same premises lies the tomb of Aurangzeb's teacher, Khwaja Syed Zainuddin Shirazi. This portion is privately owned and maintained with the help of donations from visitors. The caretaker Javed Ahmed, 58, says, "Most people who come here are history enthusiasts and have a secular mindset. We have many non-Muslim visitors throughout the year. They offer flowers and *chadar* on the tomb," he says.

Parvez's uncle Nisar Ahmad, 65, a senior caretaker of Aurangzeb's tomb, lives in Bazaargalli village behind the tomb. He regrets undergoing knee replacement surgery at a time when the area is under heavy police security.

"Khuldabad has always been a secular society where people have lived together in harmony for generations," he says. "All this is happening because a few miscreants are trying to cause communal disputes. It is always the poor and jobless youth who are pushed to the front of these protests. And they are the ones who die or get injured, not the people who ignite the flames."

Ahmad is particularly upset about the timing of the controversy. "The miscreants are trying to provoke us during an auspicious month. If they want to destroy all historical evidence of the Mughals, they will have to rewrite the history of this country. That is dangerous," he says.

A few metres away is Lahaniali, a Maratha-dominated area. Shivani Deepak Lagad, 15, says, "For years, my friends and I have been visiting the Urus festival (commemorating the death anniversary of a Sufi saint, Zar Zari Zar Baksh). Every time their mothers make *sheer korma* or mutton, they invite me. My mother invites them when we celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi or Diwali."

A stationary store owner, 40, says he has watched *Chhaava* and believes that it portrays only a fraction of the torture that Sambhaji suffered. "If people are losing their minds watching just 10% of the violence, what will they do if they read Marathi literature," he asks. "Certain news channels are spreading fake news that Khuldabad is affected due to a Hindu-Muslim conflict. Do you see anything here? Politicians are just playing politics and pitting people against each other."

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From Page One

Judge's transfer is not related to 'rumours': SC

On the "incident", the top court said the Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court, Justice D.K. Upadhyaya, on receiving information, had commenced an in-house enquiry collecting details and evidence. The High Court Chief Justice had begun the enquiry even prior to a Supreme Court Collegium meeting on March 20. The enquiry report would be submitted to Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna on March 21. The Delhi High Court Chief Justice's report would be "examined and processed for further and necessary action", the press note said. The nature of the enquiry and report are confidential to protect the individual integrity of the judge concerned.

Stages of probe

The press note referred to the Supreme Court judgment in *Additional District and Sessions Judge 'X' versus Registrar General, High Court of Madhya Pradesh* of 2015. The judgment elucidates the stages of the in-house enquiry procedure, which is meant to "ensure exclusion of favouritism, prejudice or bias".

The in-house enquiry procedure against sitting High Court judges is compartmentalised into two stages. The first stage involves the *prima facie* ascertainment by the Chief Justice of the High Court concerned, in this case the Delhi High Court Chief Justice, of the veracity of the allegations and whether a deeper probe was called for. This would be done on the basis of a logical assessment made on a consideration of the response of the judge concerned.

The second stage of the procedure is monitored by the Chief Justice of India and is kicked off if he endorses the High Court Chief Justice's report recommending a deeper probe. In such a situation, the CJI would constitute a three-member committee of two Chief Justices of High Courts and a judge of a High Court. The committee can devise its own procedure of investigation, provided it follows the principle of natural justice. The judge in question would have a fair opportunity to repudiate the allegations levelled against him.

'Language issue raked up to hide corruption'

Mr. Shah said that by December, through the newly created Bharatiya Bhasha Anubhag, he would respond to every letter or communication in the language they were sent in, thereby promoting all Indian languages.

"This is a reply to those who are running their shop in the name of language to hide their corrupt activities. We have been asking for two years, but you do not have the courage to start medical and engineering courses in Tamil," he said.

"When we come to power in Tamil Nadu, we will translate the courses. You spread poison in the name of language. You like a language that has its origin thousands of kilometres away but cannot tolerate languages of your own country. We have seen enough division in the country on linguistic grounds, now is the time to think about its growth and development," Mr. Shah said, without directly naming the DMK or the Congress.

He asserted that Hindi was not in competition with any other language.

Earlier, John Brittas of the CPI(M) sought to know which State in north India had implemented the three-language education policy.

As Mr. Brittas quoted X's AI assistant Grok on the Aurangzeb issue while referring to the platform's owner Elon Musk as one of the "close friends" of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Mr. Shah intervened, "Yours is the only international party and the rest are Indian political parties. Why are you doing Musk Musk, talk about India."

Mr. Shah said Left Wing Extremism (LWE) would end in the country by March 31, 2026.

Referring to the arrest of Lok Sabha member and chief of radical Sikh outfit Waris Punjab De Amritpal Singh, he said there were attempts by some to become "Bhindranwale" in Punjab but despite the BJP not being in power in Punjab, the MHA, with its strong intent, put such elements in jail in Assam. Mr. Singh won the Lok Sabha seat from Khadoor Sahib in Punjab as an Independent in 2024 while still being lodged in Assam jail.

"We will not let allow any adverse activity in the country in the name of political ideology, it will be nipped in the bud," the Minister said.

Haris Beeran of the IUML had raised a question regarding no separate budget allocation for Census this year. He also sought to know why when more than 60,000 people had been displaced in Manipur, the response of the Ministry had been "vague". Without mentioning the Nagpur riots, Sanjay Raut of the Shiv Sena (UBT) said that by raking up the name of Mughal king Aurangzeb, the government was trying to turn Maharashtra into Manipur.

Population increase

Congress leader Ajay Maken questioned the government on the impending Census exercise. He pointed out that India's population had increased by approximately 25% since the last census in 2011. "In 2011, the population was 121 crore, now it is expected to be 146 crore.... For the 2011 Census, we started scheduling in 2009 itself. Now, the Census is important for us because all our programmes for public welfare are based on it."

The debate was initiated by Trinamool Congress's Saket Gokhale on March 19. The Trinamool Congress walked out of the Rajya Sabha on Friday as the discussion was taken up at noon, foregoing the agenda of Question Hour and introduction of Private Members Bill.

As PM's Nagpur visit draws near, police focus on restoring normalcy in RSS hub

So far, 99 persons have been arrested and 13 cases booked; city court remands 17 more people to police custody on 'serious' charges; Central and State officials prepare to receive the Prime Minister on March 30; Maharashtra CM Fadnavis had termed the violence was a 'planned incident'

Abhinay Deshpande
MUMBAI

The Nagpur Police have arrested 99 people, registered 13 first information reports (FIRs), and started an investigation into the communal clashes that wracked the city centre on March 17, Police Commissioner Ravinder Singal told *The Hindu* on Friday. Normalcy is gradually returning to the city just days ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's scheduled visit at the end of the month.

The unrest was triggered by demands for the removal of Aurangzeb's grave from Maharashtra, with tensions further escalated by rumours of a 'chadar'– a holy cloth inscribed with Koranic verses – being burned. The violence, which included stone-pelting, arson, and widespread chaos, led to the imposition of a curfew in several areas. However, the situation has since stabilised, with the curfew being partially lifted in some parts of the city.

Speaking about security arrangements for Friday prayers in Nagpur mosques, Mr. Singal said, "Following due assessment, we have deployed security."

Preparing for the PM

Restoring normalcy in Nagpur, the second capital of Maharashtra, is a top priority for the police, not only because the city is home to the headquarters of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh – which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year – or because it is represented by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, but also because Mr. Modi is scheduled to visit on March 30, on the occasion of Gudi Padwa, the first day of the Hindu calendar.

Police personnel escort persons arrested in connection with the recent violence in Nagpur on Friday. PTI

During his visit, the Prime Minister will lay the foundation stone for the Madhav Eye Hospital, an RSS-backed initiative. He is also expected to visit the Hedgewar Smriti Mandir, marking his first visit to the site since becoming Prime Minister in 2014 and the first by any sitting PM.

"Both Central and State enforcement officers are working together to ensure everything is normal in the city. The SPG will soon take over the venue for additional security," an official said.

'Serious charges'

A local court in Nagpur has remanded 17 people arrested in connection with the violence to police custody until March 22. The court emphasised the "seriousness of the offence" and noted that "*prima facie* the accusation against them was well-founded".

The accused were produced before Magistrate Maimuna Sultana on Thursday night, where the police sought a seven-day custody for further interrogation. However, the court granted only two days of custody.

'Overflowing emotions'

Mr. Fadnavis arrived in Nagpur on Friday evening, marking his first visit to his home city since the clashes. Officials said he would stay overnight but has no public engagements scheduled during his visit. He is expected to return to Mumbai on Saturday.

Addressing the State Assembly on Tuesday, Mr. Fadnavis had described the violence as a "planned incident" and vowed that "no one will be spared" in holding those responsible accountable.

He also referenced the film *Chhaava*, which portrays the life of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's son, Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, stating that it reflects real history.

"The emotions of people are overflowing, and they are showing anger against Aurangzeb," he said, highlighting the historical and emotional undercurrents fuelling the tensions.

No deportation for Indian postdoctoral scholar till court order, rules U.S. judge

Press Trust of India
NEW YORK

A U.S. federal judge has blocked the deportation of an Indian student at Georgetown University who was arrested after federal authorities accused him of "actively spreading Hamas propaganda".

Badar Khan Suri

Badar Khan Suri is a postdoctoral fellow at the Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding at the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, Washington DC.

In a court order dated March 20, District Judge Patricia Tolliver Giles said, "It is ordered that petitioner shall not be removed from the United States unless and until the court issues a contrary order."

A senior Department of Homeland Security spokesperson earlier said in a statement to PTI that "Suri was a foreign exchange student at Georgetown University actively spreading Hamas propaganda and promoting anti-Semitism on social media. Suri has close connections to a known or suspected terrorist, who is a senior adviser to Hamas, the spokesperson said.

"The Secretary of State issued a determination on March 15, 2025 that Suri's activities and presence in the United States rendered him deportable." Mr. Suri's lawyer Hassan Ahmad had filed a petition for a writ of *habeas corpus* on March 18. According to the petition, the Department of Homeland Security had arrested and charged Mr. Suri with "removability" on March 17.

Mr. Suri alleged he was being detained at the Farmville Detention Center in Virginia. Mr. Suri's lawyer said he and his team were working "diligently" to secure his client's removal from the detention facility. "We welcome Judge Giles' ruling," Mr. Ahmad told CNN. "It is the first due process Dr. Suri has received since he was snatched away from his family on Monday night."

A report in *Politico* had said Mr. Suri was "detained by federal immigration authorities amid the Trump administration's crackdown on student activists".

It is important for Indian students in U.S. to comply with local laws, says MEA

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Ranjani Srinivasan, the U.S.-based Indian scholar who took refuge in Canada after Columbia University cancelled her enrollment in a PhD programme, has not approached Indian missions in the U.S., the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Friday. Official Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated at a media briefing that neither Ms. Srinivasan nor Badar Khan Suri, a student at Georgetown University, had contacted Indian authorities.

"We are not aware of her getting in touch with our consulate or our embassy for any help. We only came to know of her departure from the United States through media reports," said Mr. Jaiswal.

In response to a question on the arrest of Mr. Suri, he said, "We are given to understand through media reports that this particular individual has been detained. We, on our side, expect that when foreign nationals come into India, they abide by our laws and customs and that when Indian nationals are abroad, they must also comply with local laws and regulations," said Mr. Jaiswal.

Randhir Jaiswal

The detention of Mr. Suri has come days after Mahmoud Khalil, a Palestinian student was detained by the U.S. authorities for allegedly supporting Hamas.

Ms. Srinivasan had left the U.S. for Canada and could share her version with news outlets while Mr. Suri was taken away even before he could share what exactly had transpired that led to his detention for allegedly promoting "Hamas propaganda".

Position on Hamas

India has maintained a consistent approach on the conflict and has been calling for a two-state solution to end the ongoing Israel-Palestine crisis. India condemned the October 7, 2023 attack by Hamas on Israel but did not declare Hamas a terrorist organisation.

Mr. Jaiswal on Friday said, "Our position on Hamas is well known to you. So I would reiterate once again - our position," indicating India has not changed its policy on Hamas.

ED arrests Coimbatore resident in SDPI case

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED)'s special task force arrested a resident of Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu on Thursday in connection with the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI) case.

The accused, Wahidur Rahman Jainullabudeen, was a physical trainer with the banned Popular Front of India (PFI) and is also "closely associated" with the SDPI, the ED said.

The SDPI is said to be the political front of the PFI. "The PFI was giving arms training under the garb of physical education classes," said the agency.

On Thursday, the ED carried out searches across Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, West Bengal, and Kerala, in connection with the money-laundering case against the SDPI. The ED has alleged that the SDPI is a beneficiary of the funds raised by the PFI, as part of a conspiracy to commit or finance terror activities.

'Justice Unplugged' law conclave to be held today

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The VIT School of Law (VITSOL), VIT Chennai, in association with *The Hindu* is organising a law conclave titled 'Justice Unplugged: Shaping the Future of Law', in Chennai on Saturday. This day-long, by invitation-only conclave will have thought-provoking discussions with some of India's most distinguished legal minds to explore the emerging challenges and opportunities in the legal profession.

Former Chief Justices of India N.V. Ramana and D.Y. Chandrachud are the chief guest and special guest respectively. C. Aryama Sundaram, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court, is the guest of honour.

The conclave will begin with a welcome address by Suresh Nambath, Editor, *The Hindu,* followed by the opening remarks of G.V. Selvam, Vice-President, VIT. Thereafter, Mr. Sundaram will deliver a special address before Justice Ramana's keynote address.

VITSOL VIT School Of Law
presents
JUSTICE UNPLUGGED
Shaping the Future of Law
in association with THE HINDU

The morning session will feature an engaging conversation between Justice Chandrachud and Mohamed Imranullah S., Deputy Editor, *The Hindu*.

The first panel discussion post lunch titled 'The Intersection of Law & Tech: AI, Privacy and Ethics', will have Senior Counsel Srinath Sridevan, advocate Suhirth Parthasarathy and Rabbiraj C., Dean, VITSOL, engage in a conversation moderated by Nagaraj Nagabushanam, Vice-President of Data & Analytics at The Hindu Group.

The second panel discussion on 'The Role of Law in a Changing Society' will feature advocates D. Nagasaila and Shabnam Banu engage in a conversation with E. Prema, Professor of Law & Assistant Dean, VITSOL. The session will be moderated by Ramya Kannan, Chief of Bureau, Tamil Nadu, *The Hindu*.

The third panel discussion on 'Corporate Law & Business Ethics - Navigating Legal Complexities' will feature a discussion between Senior Counsel N.L. Rajah, advocate Deepika Murali and R. Kesavamoorthy, Professor of Law, VITSOL. Aaratrika Bhaumik, Senior Sub-Editor, *The Hindu,* will moderate the session. She will also moderate the final session of the day on the 'Future of Legal Education in India', featuring Senior Counsel P.R. Raman, advocate Anirudh Krishnan and P.R.L. Rajavenkatesan, Professor of Law, VITSOL.

The event will conclude with a valedictory address by AR.L. Sundaresan, Additional Solicitor General, Madras High Court. To watch, log on to newsth.live/THVITLAW25 or scan the QR code.

Row over language is politically motivated to fuel division: RSS

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

The Sangh Parivar was concerned about forces that were challenging national unity by creating the north-south divide through the language row or causing controversy over delimitation, C.R. Mukunda, Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS) joint general secretary, said on Friday.

Claiming that the issues were politically motivated, he said the volunteers and functionaries of the organisation were doing their best to bring harmony, especially in southern States.

"Other than the delimitation controversy, there are many things, mostly politically motivated. For example, having the rupee symbol in a local language or about [having a third] language.

"These things could be addressed not by political but social leaders. It is not good for the country to quarrel among ourselves,"

C.R. Mukunda

he said. Asked about the organisation's take on the three-language formula, he said the Sangh believed that daily interactions, and not just education, should be in one's mother tongue.

He reiterated RSS's stance that we should all learn multiple languages – the mother tongue, a regional language and a language for one's career.

Mr. Mukunda was speaking to the press on the inaugural day of the RSS executive body meeting.

The meeting was attended by 1,482 people from the Sangh and its affiliated organisations.

This ad is 5.42 cm long.
That is how much the Dokriani Glacier melted in a day.
Source: Ministry of Earth Sciences, 2022

THE HINDU GROUP

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RS Chairman reminds MPs of NJAC Bill, judicial accountability

After Opposition raises issue regarding a Delhi HC judge, Dhankhar says the historic law dealt with the malaise severely; he adds that he will speak to Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition and find a mechanism for a structured discussion

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar with Union Ministers Kiren Rijiju and Arjun Ram Meghwal and Congress MPs Jairam Ramesh and Pramod Tiwari at Parliament House in New Delhi on Friday. ANI

Before the Supreme Court clarified on Friday that the proposed transfer of a Delhi High Court judge was not related to a fire incident at his official residence, Opposition members in the Rajya Sabha raised the issue on the floor of the House.

Congress chief whip Jairam Ramesh referred to a news report that claimed that fire brigade personnel had allegedly recovered "huge cash" from the official residence of the judge during the fire fighting operation.

Without naming the judge, Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar said if the "malaise" had been dealt with, perhaps the country would not have countenanced such kind of issues.

He referred to the National Judicial Appointments Commission Bill and said the historic legislation "endorsed by this Parliament with unprecedented consensual support unknown to parliamentary history of this country dealt with the malaise very severely".

"What bothers me is that the incident happened and did not immediately surface," he added.

The Supreme Court struck down the NJAC Act in 2015.

Earlier, Mr. Ramesh, citing Mr. Dhankhar's stand on judicial accountability, sought his statement on the issue. He also reminded the Chairman that 50 MPs had submitted a notice for removing a judge of the Allahabad High Court for making unacceptable remarks.

Mr. Dhankhar, responding to Mr. Ramesh on the notice by MPs, said he was seized of a representation by 55 members of the House and had taken all necessary steps to get their verification.

"First mail was sent to all of them and the good thing is most of the members have responded positively, helping me perform my duty. Some members are yet to do. A mail reiterating the same has been sent to them. I have taken all procedural steps but I must share with you one concern that is engaging my attention. Of the 55 members who signed the representation, a member's signature appears on two occasions and the member concerned has denied his signature. Now I do not wish to get into this act which may graduate to culpability to a higher level. If the number is above 50, I will proceed accordingly. Therefore, most of the members have cooperated. Those members who have not done so far, may please do it in response to the second mail sent to them. Then the process will not be delayed at my level even for a moment," he said.

On the issue of the Delhi High Court judge, Mr. Dhankhar said he had pleaded with the Leader of the House, J.P. Nadda, that the House needed to know the status of the collective exercise of Parliament on judicial accountability.

"You all will recollect if the mechanism which was passed by this House with near unanimity, with no dissension, only one abstention in Rajya Sabha, all political parties converging, going in for the initiative of the government. I wish to find out the status of that which emanated from Indian Parliament, made sacrosanct by endorsement of 16 State Assemblies in the country and signed by the Hon'ble President under Article 111 of the Constitution," he said.

"If it happens with a politician, he becomes a target, a bureaucrat, an industrialist immediately and therefore systemic response which is transparent, accountable, effective, I am sure will be on the way. I will get in touch with Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition and find a mechanism for a structured discussion during course of the session subject to their agreement. I will discuss this with them," he added.

Allahabad HC is not a 'trash bin', says Bar Association

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In a strongly worded letter, the Allahabad High Court Bar Association opposed the "proposed repatriation" of Justice Yashwant Varma from the Delhi High Court to the Allahabad High Court following allegations that a huge amount of cash was found at his residence during a fire accident.

"This decision of the Collegium of the Supreme Court raises a serious question as to whether the Allahabad High Court is a trash bin. This matter becomes important when we examine the current situation wherein the Allahabad High Court is short of judges," the letter issued by Anil Tiwari, president of the Bar Association, read. It said that new judges had not been appointed for "many years". "We are not ready to accept corruption," it added.

The Supreme Court on Friday said misinformation was being spread on the issue. It also denied claims that the Collegium had recommended Justice Varma's transfer to the Allahabad High Court and added that the Collegium was yet to make any official recommendation.

INBRIEF

Nitish disrespected National Anthem, must apologise: RJD

Opposition parties led by the Rashtriya Janata Dal on Friday demanded an apology from Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar over an alleged insult to the National Anthem during an event in Patna. The parties protested in both Houses of the State Legislature. Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Tejashwi Yadav said that for the first time in the history of Indian politics, a Chief Minister had insulted the National Anthem and must apologise to the nation. "The way he insulted the National Anthem, we are ashamed of being Bihari due to his conduct. Nitish*ji* has made us bow our heads in shame," he said.

Delhi court rejects MP Engineer Rashid's bail plea

A Delhi court on Friday dismissed the bail application of MP from Baramulla, Sheikh Abdul Rashid, alias Engineer Rashid, lodged in Tihar jail. Additional Sessions Judge Chander Jit Singh denied him bail. Mr. Rashid was arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in a 2017 terror funding case. During the hearing, Mr. Rashid had challenged a March 10 order of the trial court refusing custody parole to attend the Lok Sabha proceedings. In the reply filed to the appeal on March 17, the NIA said the accused could not be allowed to use his status as an MP to "get away from rigours of imprisonment".

Dialogue on between Kuki, Meitei groups, says Shah

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday informed the Rajya Sabha that peace prevailed in Manipur and dialogue between the two communities had been initiated.

Mr. Shah said he sincerely hoped that through dialogue the distance and division between the Kuki-Zo and the Meitei community would be bridged in the near future.

Responding to the discussion on the working of the Union Home Ministry in the Rajya Sabha, the Minister said he would give a detailed response on the situation in Manipur when he tables the Proclamation of President's Rule next week. "We will discuss Manipur when I seek the House's permission on President's Rule in the State. I want to assure that Manipur is peaceful now, dialogue between both communities has started," Mr. Shah said.

On March 11 and March 12, Ministry officials separately met Kuki-Zo and Meitei civil society groups in Manipur in the aftermath of the blockade of National Highways by the Kuki-Zo groups. The civil society groups were informed about the road map prepared by the Centre to usher in normalcy in the State.

Manipur was placed under President's Rule on February 13. More than 250 people have been killed in the ethnic violence that erupted on May 3, 2023.

LS approves Demands for Grants of ₹50 lakh crore for various Ministries

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, and others in the Lok Sabha during the Budget Session on Friday. ANI

The Lok Sabha on Friday passed the Demands for Grants for various Ministries for 2025-26, approving expenditure of more than ₹50 lakh crore.

The House passed the Demands for Grants by applying the guillotine, which means the funds for the Ministries it [guillotine] is applied on are considered approved without a discussion.

The Lower House also passed the Appropriation Bill (3), 2025, moved by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

'Fully committed'

Earlier in the day, the Lok Sabha debated the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare for about four hours. Replying to the debate, Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said the Narendra Modi government had spent ₹22.38 lakh crore on procurement of farm produce at minimum support price (MSP) and the procurement formula ensured that farmers earned 50% profits over their cost of production.

Asserting that a 5% growth in agriculture was a "miraculous achievement", Mr. Chouhan said, "Our government is fully committed to farmers' welfare... The BJP's vision is to serve farmers and we consider it akin to worshipping God".

Former Punjab Chief Minister and Congress MP, Charanjit Singh Channi also raised concern over the government's position on slashing import duties on grains.

"America's President has openly stated they would impose reciprocal taxes and that India agreed to lower import duties on grains. If that is the case, what will happen to our country's agricultural produce?" Mr Channi asked.

'Betraying the farmers'

The Congress MP also deplored the police action on farmers on the Punjab border and accused the BJP of betraying the farmers by failing to fulfil its promise on MSP and suppressing the ongoing farmers' agitation.

"The government asked the protesting farmer leaders to withdraw their hunger strike, promising negotiations. But while they held meetings, the police were being prepared to dismantle the agitation. How can there be trust when the farmers are called for talks but then forcibly removed at night?" Mr. Channi asked, referring to the action by the Punjab Police.

Hitting back, Mr. Chouhan asked, "Have we been friends with Aam Admi Party? You were walking arm-in-arm till the Lok Sabha election. You were together and you are accusing us".

Samajwadi Party MP Dharmendra Yadav also condemned the government's handling of the protests, citing distress among farmers under the BJP-led government. "In the past 10 years, over a lakh farmers have committed suicide. Three farm laws were introduced and, despite the Opposition labelling them as 'black laws', the government refused to listen. Farmers endured extreme weather and staged month-long protests, during which 750 of them were martyred. Till today, not a single family of those farmers has received compensation," he said.

Drawing a parallel between colonial rule and the treatment of farmers, Congress MP Jai Prakash said the government using force to suppress protests was unacceptable.

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) MP T.M. Selvaganapathi said, "Even U.S. President Donald Trump has said India agreed to the U.S. conditions. Mexico, China and even European countries are resisting but we have become spineless. This will be a death knell for our farmers".

He also said the Centre was seeking to reverse India's long-standing policy of reducing dependence on the U.S. wheat imports. "Thanks to the Green Revolution led by our forefathers, especially M.S. Swaminathan and Dr. C. Subramaniam, India overcame its dependence on PL-480 wheat imports from the US. But now, the government is reversing that trend," he charged.

NCP (Sharadchandra Pawar) MP Amol Ramsing Kolhe pointed to the disparity between the U.S. and the Indian farmers, particularly in soyabean production. "After the change of power in the U.S., they are demanding that India open its agriculture market. This poses a major crisis for our farmers but the government has not given any clarity on this matter," Mr. Kolhe said.

Thirteen Bangladesh nationals deported, Centre informs SC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

SC allows time till the end of April for the Centre to deal with the verification

The Centre informed the Supreme Court on Friday that 13 Bangladeshi nationals have been deported to their country while the verification process for the remaining illegal immigrants in detention centres in Assam is under way.

Appearing before a Bench of Justices A.S. Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan, Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, representing the Centre and the Assam government, said the Bangladesh High Commission was involved in the process as it had to be first confirmed that the immigrants were Bangladeshi nationals. Mr. Mehta said the Nationality Status Verification Format of the detainees was sent to the External Affairs Ministry on February 14. Deportation would be possible only if Bangladesh agreed that the detainees were its citizens.

He said illegal immigrants broadly fell into two categories, those whose nationality was known and others who were non-Indians but of unknown nationality. The court allowed time till the end of April for the Centre to deal with the verification of the nationality of detainees who belonged to the second category.

The court directed Assam to file an affidavit, by the next hearing, on progress made in the submission of the Nationality Status Verification Format of the detainees and further deportations, if any. The court scheduled the case for hearing on May 6.

On February 4, the top court had pulled up the Assam government for indefinitely detaining people in detention camps, asking the State whether it was waiting for an auspicious time to deport them. The court had expressed surprise at the State's affidavit that it was not sending nationality verification forms to the External Affairs Ministry as the addresses of the detainees in their native country were not known.

RS Chairman disposes of pleas against three leaders

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar has disposed of the complaints under the Rajya Sabha (Disqualification on Ground of Defection) Rules against three MPs of the Nationalist Congress Party and the Nationalist Congress Party (Sharadchandra Pawar) – Praful Patel, Vandana Chauhan, and Fauzia Khan – after both factions sought no actions on their pleas.

INFORMATION WANTED

This is the photograph of **Keshab Biswas,** father's Name-**Jaladhar Biswas,** of Baro Bangla, PO- Jatigara, PS-Sitai, Dist-Coochbehar, who has been missing since 14.01.2020 at about 00:00 hrs. Work place at Bangalore, Description of this missing person is : **Age-**24 Years, **Complexion-**Fair, **Height-**5 Feet, **Wearing-**Sky-Blue Colour Ganji, Blue Jeans. Please Contact Officer in Charge, Missing Persons Bureau, C.I.D., West Bengal, Bhabani Bhaban, Kolkata-700027, Ph. No.-033-2450-6120.

ICA- D 616(3)/2025

Sule opposes CBSE pattern in Maharashtra

MUMBAI

Lok Sabha MP Supriya Sule has raised concerns over the decision to implement the CBSE pattern in Maharashtra.

VISAKHAPATNAM METROPOLITAN REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

"e"-Procurement Request For Proposal (RFP) Notice

The VMRDA, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh invites Bids on "e" procurement Platform for Request for Proposal (RFP) for the following PPP project

NIT No.	Name of PPP Project	The RFP can be downloaded
27/2024-2025/CE/SE-I /EE-1/VMRDA, Dt.20.03.2025	Technical Consultant for Holistic Development of Kailasagiri, Visakhapatnam	From 20.03.2025 to 16.04.2025

For the details please logon to www.apeprocurement.gov.in

Sd/- Metropolitan Commissioner VMRDA

INBRIEF

Mirwaiz Umar Farooq seeks revocation of ban on his party

Hurriyat chairman and Kashmir's chief cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, while addressing a Friday congregation in Srinagar for the first time since his party was banned by the Union Home Ministry, said the Centre's move "was harsh and uncalled for and should be revoked". Referring to the recent ban imposed on the Awami Action Committee (AAC), the Mirwaiz said, "Those who suffered personal tragedies yet practised patience and advocated peace even in most trying times, are accused of disrupting law and order and creating unrest. These allegations are unfounded in the face of facts and the party's glorious history".

Maoist-free panchayats to get incentives: Chhattisgarh govt.

The Chhattisgarh government has announced a new scheme offering construction work worth ₹1 crore and other incentives for "Maoism-free" panchayats. Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma said on Friday that under the *Elvad Panchayat Abhiyan*, a panchayat would have to facilitate the surrender of every resident who have been involved in Naxal activities. The village will then send a proposal declaring itself "Maoist-free". "Following this, construction work worth one crore rupees will be sanctioned. Along with this, a mobile network facility will be made available in that panchayat," said Mr. Sharma.

There is progress on GM food crops, says official

Remark comes amid apprehensions over the Environment Ministry's approval for commercial cultivation of GM mustard in 2022; Supreme Court is set to hear pleas on the same next month

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Ahead of a fresh series of hearings in the Supreme Court next month over genetically modified (GM) food crops, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) said there was "progress" on this front.

"The matter is *sub judice* but GM mustard stories are being taken up again," DBT Secretary Rajesh Gokhale said at a biotechnology event on Friday. The DBT, which has for years funded research and development into transgenic and GM food crops, comes under the Ministry of Science and Technology.

At present, Bt cotton is the only genetically modified crop allowed to be cultivated. Though the Environment Ministry gave its conditional go-ahead for commercial cultivation of GM mustard in 2022, it has not taken off as it was challenged in the Supreme Court.

Science Minister Jitendra Singh who was also at the event, said, "There is so much dynamism in biotechnology development that we cannot look at tomorrow through the prism of today."

Awaiting hearing: Petitioners have challenged the Environment Ministry's approval for cultivation of GM mustard. R.V. MOORTHY

Hearing from April 15

On March 6, a three-judge Bench of the Supreme Court said it will begin hearing from April 15 petitions challenging the Environment Ministry's approval for cultivation of GM mustard. The court has told all parties to file their written submissions within a week.

A two-judge Bench of the top court, on July 23, 2024, gave a split verdict on the validity of the Centre's 2022 decision granting conditional approval for the environmental release of GM mustard crop. However, it also directed the Centre to formulate a "national policy" on GM crops. Mr. Gokhale told *The Hindu* that the DBT had provided "technical inputs" to the Union Environment Ministry, which was formulating the policy and was the "nodal coordinator".

Safety concerns

GM mustard, developed using public funds, was the first transgenic food crop to be approved for farmer fields by the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee, a scientific body. However, it wasn't approved for cultivation following safety objections by activist groups.

However, the use of biotechnology to improve food crops – as in the case of GM mustard – is a key focus of the government's BioE3 policy.

This involves manufacturing new kinds of enzymes, pharmaceuticals and agricultural products while applying techniques, including genetic engineering.

A report released by the DBT at the event on Friday on the current state of India's 'bio-economy' says that bio-agriculture accounts for 8.1% – the smallest share – of the $165.7 billion bio-economy in India.

"Valued at $13.5 billion, this segment enhances agricultural productivity and resilience through genetically modified crops like Bt Cotton and precision agriculture technologies," the report notes.

Do not publish NIRF ranking for 2025: HC to Education Ministry

The Hindu Bureau
MADURAI

NIRF ranking is done based on the data given by institutions without verification, says petitioner

The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court on Thursday restrained the Education Ministry and the National Board of Accreditation (NBA) from publishing the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) ranking for 2025.

The court was hearing a public interest litigation petition filed by C. Chellamuthu from Dindigul district of Tamil Nadu.

He claimed that the ranking was without any basis and was misleading students.

The NIRF was launched by the NBA on the direction of the Education Ministry for evaluating higher education institutions.

The NBA publishes the ranking every year. Institutions are evaluated on five broad categories – teaching, learning and resources; research and professional practice; graduation outcomes; outreach and inclusivity; and perception – the petition said.

The NBA directs institutions to upload data on student and staff strength, staff salaries, graduation index, placement details, funds received for research, and other parameters on its web portal. Based on this data, the ranking is awarded without further verification or auditing, the petitioner said.

Comparing it with the National Assessment and Accreditation Council's (NAAC) Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR), the petitioner said the NAAC-AQAR documents were audited and checked by expert committees sent by the NAAC to the institutions.

The petitioner sought a direction to the NBA to publish the NIRF ranking after comparing and verifying the data submitted by the institutions with the data in the government records and to disclose the calculation method.

A Division Bench of Justices J. Nisha Banu and S. Srimathy restrained the authorities from publishing the ranking for 2025. The court sought a counter affidavit and posted the matter to April 24.

AAIB to conduct in-depth probe into all tail strikes involving IndiGo aircraft

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

With an IndiGo A321 Neo aircraft scraping the runway in Chennai earlier this month – the sixth known incident in two years – the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) is now digging into every prior tail strike by the airline.

"Due to the criticality of the recent cases as well as the frequent occurrence of tail strikes at IndiGo, we have decided to investigate them in totality," a senior AAIB official told *The Hindu*. The official said it will be investigating various factors such as training or procedural lapses, air crew profiling, and any glaring pattern behind the incidents.

On March 8, the tail section of an IndiGo Airbus A321 Neo aircraft from Mumbai hit the runway at the Chennai airport during landing. The aircraft registered as VT-IBI was also involved in a previous tail strike on September 9, 2024, following which it was grounded for over five months for maintenance until February 6. The aircraft conducted 190 flights before it encountered another tail hit in March.

IndiGo flights scraped runways six times in two years, most recently on March 8 in Chennai.

Both pilots on the Mumbai-Chennai flight were "reasonably" experienced. The flight was an annual proficiency check flight for a captain, under the supervision of a trainer. At the time of landing, the trainer was commanding the flight, said sources.

Significant damage

Initial investigation into the incident was carried out by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), but as there were significant internal damage to the aircraft due to the scraping of its tail section, it was categorised as a "serious incident" and the probe transferred to the AAIB.

The investigation into the September 9 tail strike of IndiGo, which was also categorised as a serious incident, is still under way. Airbus has also submitted its inputs to the probe agency.

In push for made-in-India browser, a mandate to trust govt. encryption

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Making a push for an indigenous web browser, the Centre on Thursday awarded a prize of ₹1 crore to the Tenkasi-based Zoho Corporation for a web browser development challenge. A key condition for the browser, though, has highlighted the principal motivation behind the project: the browser, Ulaa, must trust India's so-called root certifying authority.

This is also meant to be contingency planning, to ensure that if India's access to the global Internet is ever cut off, due to some unforeseen security scenario, it will still be possible to have a completely operational browser within the country.

Indian root certificate

Root certifying authorities are around 100 organisations across the world who can confer trustworthiness tag on firms that issue Secure Socket Layer (SSL) certificates, which are represented by the "https" on a web address. On most mainstream web browsers, a green lock icon with the "https" in the URL indicates an encrypted and legitimate connection to any given website.

Zoho Corporation accepts the first prize in the Indian web browser development challenge from Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw.

The Controller of Certifying Authorities (CCA) – a body set up under the Electronics and Information Technology Ministry – has already created an Indian root certificate. But after a security breach in 2014, where the government's National Informatics Commission's systems were used to generate fake SSL certificates for sites like Google and Yahoo, web browsers and operating systems stopped including the CCA's certificates in their software repositories.

The ₹1 crore prize – announced in 2023 – was to create a web browser that trusts the latest iteration of this root certificate.

Only one Indian organisation – the private company eMudhra's emSign – is currently trusted as a root certifying authority by browsers around the world.

Arvind Kumar, the current CCA, said on Thursday that Ulaa would help the government to navigate "the multiple kind of negotiation compliances which [major browsers] are proposing on us", and that "we should be able to have a good negotiating stage while developing while working with Mozilla or Google".

Mr. Kumar added that the browser would allow for an "indigenous authentication mechanism and enhance cybersecurity".

IT Secretary S. Krishnan said that a domestic browser would be "a key step in achieving Internet resilience for the country".

Whitewashing concludes at Jama Masjid in Sambhal

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

Painting and whitewashing work at the Shahi Jama Masjid in Uttar Pradesh's Sambhal was completed on Friday, concluding the Allahabad High Court-mandated renovation process that began on Sunday.

The work was conducted under the supervision of the Archaeological Survey of India after a directive from the Allahabad High Court. The mosque management had requested permission for whitewashing, additional lighting, and decorative installations around the structure.

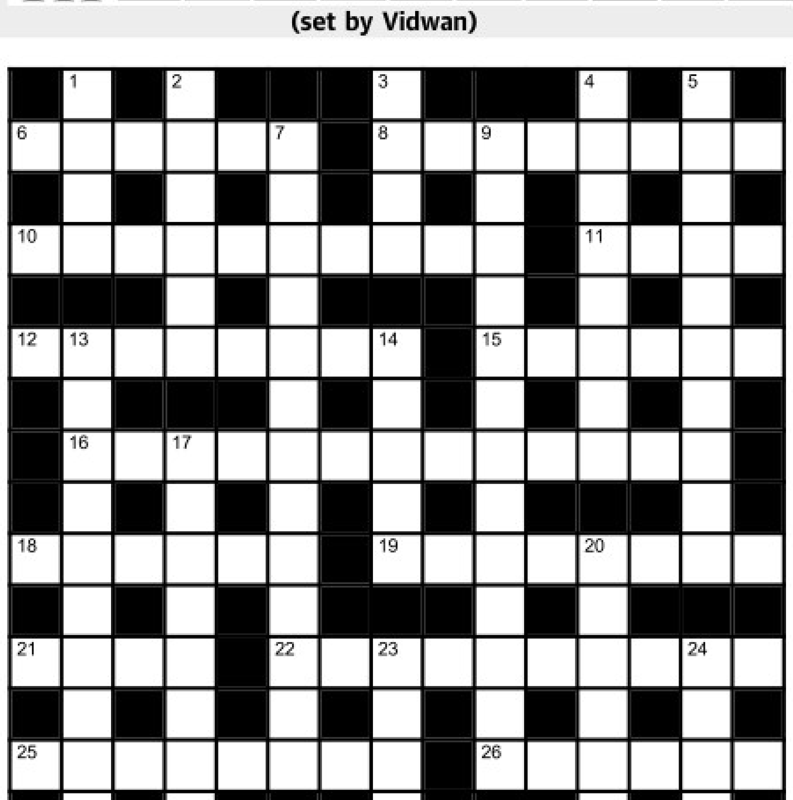
This comes in the middle of a legal tussle over the Mughal-era mosque, following an application in a local court claiming that the Shahi Jama Masjid was built over an ancient Hindu temple.

TH CROSSWORD+ 14439

(set by Vidwan)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

6 Mexican adapting somewhat to cold country (6)
8 Diplomatic tricks, partly extraordinary! (8)
10 ED from old Berlin! (4,6)
11 Shop could be exclusive (4)
12 King saw it as bad sign (8)
15 Contestant may do this for an ophthalmologist's device (6)
16 Sales staff's hand is brown in photograph (4,9)
18 Calm angry politician leaving for Virginia (6)
19 A bit of verbalisation is ordinary in boring counselling (8)
21 Probability in conflict (4)
22 Some fear Trump ethicality is something that amplifies commonly said things (3,7)
25 Most numerous, most prime and half-mad honestly! (3-2-3)
26 Upset about team going back to some imaginary magical solution (6)

Down

1 Indian King's open backtracking (4)
2 A ground for legal action mostly involving court and a plant (6)
3 Film about boring mathematical problem (4)
4 Black American writer marching into daylight with a court order (8)
5 Somehow most assess Trump as good enough for the job (4,6)
7 A Mexican by leaving for border, at last, made right moves towards this! (8,5)
9 Ones never seen can become, what one sees as a silly poem (8,5)
13 Someone like Brian Lara or Vinod Kambli ends it with a win abroad! (4,6)
14 Lost amongst boats easily! (2,3)
17 Rival Chinese mobile manufacturer's position (8)
20 Meeting married men in clubs, say (6)
23 Managed King's position (4)
24 Long piece, endlessly winding (4)

SUDOKU

2		3	9		8			
			4	7		8	2	5
			1					
		4				7	6	2
1								4
8	7	6				5		
					5			
7	3	1		9	4			
			6		7	3		1

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

W	H	O	L	E	W	H	E	A	T	B	R	E	A	D
E		P		V		B		W		R		N		E
A	R	T	D	E	C	O		F	R	I	N	G	E	S
T		I		N		M		U		E		A		K
H	U	M	U	S		B	U	L	L	F	I	G	H	T
E		U		O				N				E		O
R	E	M	I	N	I	S	C	E		A	D	D	U	P
F				G		U		S		N				C
O	A	S	I	S		P	I	S	T	A	C	H	I	O
R		M				E				L		A		M
E	C	O	M	M	E	R	C	E		G	R	U	M	P
C		K		I		H		T		E		B		U
A	T	I	N	G	L	E		U	P	S	W	E	P	T
S		N		H		R		D		I		R		E
T	I	G	H	T	R	O	P	E	W	A	L	K	E	R

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

7	2	1	8	5	4	3	6	9
8	5	9	6	3	1	2	4	7
3	4	6	9	7	2	1	5	8
6	1	7	2	9	5	4	8	3
4	3	5	1	8	7	6	9	2
2	9	8	3	4	6	5	7	1
1	8	3	5	6	9	7	2	4
5	7	2	4	1	8	9	3	6
9	6	4	7	2	3	8	1	5

FAITH

Panguni and Mannargudi

Come Panguni (the Tamil month corresponding to March-April), Vasihnavite devotees make a beeline for Mannargudi's Rajagopalaswamy temple. A popular Tamil adage states, *Tiruvarur ther* (chariot) *azhagu* (pretty), *Mannargudi madhil* (compound wall) *azhagu*, reinforcing the pull of the famous Rajagopalaswamy Temple in Mannargudi. The temple for the presiding deity and His Consort Sengamalavalli Thayar that was originally small, was expanded by later day rulers and made the focal point around which the town grew. They also ushered in the 18-day-long brahmotsavam on a grand scale, in practice till date, wherein Rajagopalaswamy appears in front of His devotees, an avowal of His endless mercy towards them, said Tirukkudanthai Dr. Venkatesh.

On all 18 days, Rajagopalaswamy sports different looks for His devotees, each one a reminder and reinforcement of His kindness and succour to devotees who place their faith in Him. Wielding a staff in His right hand, bright as the rising run, sporting a tilak of rubies on His forehead, bedecked with lovely flowers, wearing a beautiful turban, the mesmerising Manmadan of the Chola belt, and the repository of limitless kindness towards His devotees, Rajagopalaswamy stands grandly, the sight of which sends His devotees into ecstasy. The significance of the deity appearing with the pot of butter (*vennai thazhi*) on the 16th day is one fraught with deep philosophy. As renowned spiritual speaker Aasukavi Villur Swami said, "I bow down in prayer to the One who stole butter in Nandagopala's house and launched the butter (food for soul) that is the Bhagavad Gita, while charioteering for Arjuna."

INBRIEF

Operations resume at NMDC as employees return to work

State-run iron ore miner NMDC on Friday said that normal operations have resumed at all its projects after protesting workers returned to work after an over two-week stir. The employees have resumed duties and normal operations have resumed at all the projects, NMDC said in a statement. The miner said it is hopeful of achieving 45 million tonnes of production in FY25 as workers have returned to work ending their two-week protest. PTI

Bull Machines looks to raise backhoe production capacity

Bull Machines, which unveiled its BS5-CEV Stage V environmental regulations compliant backhoe loader on Friday, said it is looking to increase its annual production capacity and almost doubling its turnover in the next 12 months. The company hopes to end FY25 with approximately ₹1,200 crore revenue and double it in FY26, its MD V. Parthiban said. At present, the firm is selling almost 2,200 vehicles in the domestic market annually and exporting close to 3,000 vehicles.

L&T elevates Sarma as deputy MD and president

Larsen & Toubro Ltd. has elevated Subramanian Sarma from the position of wholetime director and president, Energy, to deputy managing director and president of the company, effective April 2, 2025. The board has also decided to extend his term to February 3, 2028, subject to shareholders' approval in the upcoming AGM. A graduate in chemical engineering and a master's degree holder from IIT Mumbai, Mr. Sarma was appointed to the board of L&T in August 2015.

Rupee climbs to a 10-week high

The domestic currency's gain was supported by stronger-than-expected trade data and a rise in foreign exchange reserves following the RBI's USD/INR swap intervention; rupee emerges 'top performer' among Asian currencies so far this month

Lalatendu Mishra
Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

The rupee on Friday climbed to a 10-week high of ₹86 against the U.S. dollar due to a surge in foreign inflows into domestic equities and debt markets, analysts said. The domestic currency was trading at ₹85.89 a dollar on January 9, 2025.

The rupee surged nearly 0.1% on Friday, making it the eighth consecutive day of appreciation against the dollar. It closed at ₹85.98 against the U.S. dollar.

On a weekly basis, the rupee surged 1.1% with the appreciation on Friday.

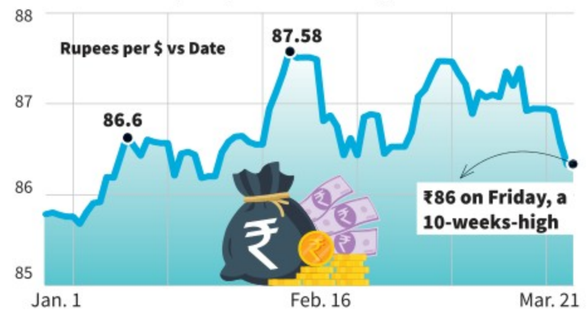
"The rupee's gain was supported by stronger-than-expected trade data and a rise in foreign exchange reserves following the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) USD/INR swap intervention," said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities.

"The central bank's efforts have paid off, with the rupee emerging as the top performer among Asian currencies so far this month," he said, adding that in the short term, the rupee is expected to receive support at 85.70 and resistance at 86.45.

Jateen Trivedi, Vice President, Research Analyst – Commodity and Currency, LKP Securities said, "Rupee strengthened as FII inflows surged with strong buying figures in recent days." "The Fed's decision to hold rates steady and its forecast for lower interest rates ahead pulled the dollar down, providing significant support to the rupee but major capital market strengthening gives rupee the strong push higher," he added. Equity markets also reported gains on Friday, with frontline indices rising by 0.7%.

The NSE Nifty extended its bullish run for a fifth consecutive session, closing higher by 159 points, or 0.69%, at 23,350. NSE cash market volumes surged dramatically by 53% from the previous day, reaching their highest level since November 25, 2024.

Bullish streak The chart shows the value of the rupee against the dollar since January 1, 2025. The rupee gained by 1.2%, rising for the sixth straight session



SEBI eases investment norms for AMC fund managers and CIOs

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

The Securities and Exchange Board of India has eased norms pertaining to the share of compensation that fund managers and chief investment officers (CIOs) of asset management companies (AMCs) are mandated to invest in the units they manage.

The June 2024 master circular on mutual fund regulations had mandated a minimum 20% share of their annual compensation without any exemption.

Now, the regulator has devised two methods to determine the minimum percentage of salaries to be invested in the schemes.

While, the first one will be based on the cost to company (CTC), the second will be based on the employee's designation.

Under the new system, effective April 1, employees earning less than ₹25 lakh need not earmark a portion of their salary to invest in their units. In case of any violations, the nomination and remuneration committee or its equivalent in an AMC will have to conduct a preliminary examination and submit its recommendations to SEBI.

Hero MotoCorp forays into e-3 wheelers

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Hero MotoCorp, manufacturer of motorcycles and scooters, has announced its foray into the electric three-wheeler segment by acquiring a significant stake in Euler Motors.

The company's board had approved a strategic investment of up to ₹525 crore in one or more tranches in Euler Motors.

The investment will provide Hero MotoCorp with a strong foothold in the fast-growing electric three-wheeler market, the company said in a statement.

Ola Electric cites 'registration backlog' behind low Feb. sales

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Ola Electric's two-year low February sales data is due to temporary registration backlog, negating any other "false narratives," the firm informed exchanges.

"This is a straightforward case of a temporary registration backlog," the filing read. "This backlog is being rapidly cleared, with daily registrations exceeding 50% of our three-month daily sales average. 40% of the February backlog has already been cleared, and the remaining will be fully resolved by the end of March 2025," the filing added. According to a FADA report, which showed data from Vaahan portal, Ola electric had a retail sale of 8,647 units in Feb. 2025, about a fourth of the year-ago sales.

(With PTI inputs)

Total registrations by Ola Electric on Vahan portal for Feb. stood at 8,647. REUTERS

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	76,906	0.73
US Dollar	85.98	0.44
Gold	91,250	-0.43
Brent oil	72.10	0.16

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2362.80	23.50
Adani Ports	1188.80	11.35
Apollo Hosp	6611.55	137.20
Asian Paints	2300.40	13.20
Axis Bank	1070.15	15.80
Bajaj Auto	8067.85	147.85
Bajaj Finserv	1847.25	-4.60
Bajaj Finance	8916.10	236.45
Bharat Elec	295.74	-1.31
Bharti Airtel	1725.80	20.55
BPCL	279.66	7.53
Britannia Ind	4814.00	-17.10
Cipla	1523.85	11.80
Coal India	405.40	9.00
Dr Reddys Lab	1200.15	12.95
Eicher Motors	5305.95	76.60
Grasim Ind	2469.40	1.25
HCL Tech	1566.70	4.70
HDFC Bank	1770.35	1.60
HDFC Life	679.60	5.25
Hero MotoCorp	3629.00	31.85
Hindalco	695.35	-10.60
Hind Unilever	2246.20	3.80
ICICI Bank	1343.10	21.40
IndusInd Bank	686.90	2.80
Infosys	1592.55	-23.00
ITC	405.55	1.60
JSW Steel	1058.70	8.45
Kotak Bank	2079.00	43.35
L&T	3415.95	64.90
M&M	2801.85	-26.25
Maruti Suzuki	11732.80	2.60
NestleIndia	2268.85	47.30
NTPC	351.30	9.55
ONGC	242.42	6.83
PowerGrid Corp	283.10	2.75
Reliance Ind	1276.35	7.20
SBI Life	1546.40	48.05
State Bank	753.20	3.65
Shriram Finance Ltd.	676.80	8.90
Sun Pharma	1784.50	34.25
TataConsumerProduct	961.20	-4.65
Tata Motors	702.95	12.90
Tata Steel	157.28	-1.76
TCS	3578.10	14.95
Tech Mahindra	1409.25	-1.30
Titan	3162.70	-30.40
Trent Ltd.	5150.05	-71.50
UltraTech Cement	10976.75	28.60
Wipro	264.30	-3.70

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on March 21

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.77	86.09
Euro	92.97	93.32
British Pound	110.99	111.41
Japanese Yen (100)	57.62	57.83
Chinese Yuan	11.83	11.88
Swiss Franc	97.37	97.74
Singapore Dollar	64.29	64.53
Canadian Dollar	59.78	60.00
Malaysian Ringitt	19.39	19.49
Australian Dollar	53.95	54.15

Source:Indian Bank

India's $23-bn plan to rival China factories to lapse after it disappoints

Reuters
NEW DELHI

The NDA government has decided to let lapse a $23 billion programme to incentivise domestic manufacturing, just four years after it launched the effort to woo firms away from China, according to four government officials.

The scheme will not be expanded beyond the 14 pilot sectors and production deadlines will not be extended despite requests from some participating firms, two of the officials said. Some 750 companies, including Apple supplier Foxconn and Indian conglomerate Reliance Industries, signed up to the Production-Linked Initiative scheme, public records show.

Firms were promised cash payouts if they met individual production targets and deadlines. The hope was to raise the share of manufacturing in the economy to 25% by 2025.

Instead, many firms that participated in the programme failed to kick-start production, while others that met manufacturing targets found India slow to pay out subsidies, according to government documents and correspondence seen by *Reuters*.

As of October 2024, participating firms had produced $151.93 billion worth of goods under the programme, or 37% of the target that Delhi had set, according to an undated analysis of the program compiled by the commerce ministry.

India had issued just $1.73 billion in incentives – or under 8% of the allocated funds, the document said. News of the government's decision to not extend the plan and specifics about the lag in payouts are being reported by *Reuters* for the first time.

Hopes dashed: Some 750 companies, including Apple supplier Foxconn and RIL, had signed up to the PLI scheme. REUTERS

The Prime Minister's Office and the commerce ministry, which oversees the programme, did not respond to requests for comment. Since the plan's introduction, manufacturing's share of the economy has decreased from 15.4% to 14.3%. Foxconn, which now employs thousands of contract workers in India, and Reliance didn't return requests for comment.

Two of the government officials told *Reuters* the end of the program did not mean Delhi had abandoned its manufacturing ambitions and that alternatives were being planned.

The government last year defended the program's impact, particularly in pharmaceuticals and mobile-phone manufacturing, which have seen explosive growth. Some 94% of the nearly $620 million in incentives disbursed between April and October 2024 were directed to those two sectors.

In some instances, some food-sector companies that applied for subsidies weren't issued them due to factors such as "non compliance of investment thresholds" and companies "not achieving stipulated minimum growth," according to the analysis. The document did not provide specifics, though it found production in the sector had exceeded targets. *Reuters* could not determine which companies the analysis referred to. But Delhi had previously acknowledged problems and agreed to extend some deadlines and increase payment frequency after complaints from PLI participants. One of the Indian officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss confidential matters, said that excessive red tape and bureaucratic caution continued to stymie the scheme's effectiveness.

As an alternative, India is considering supporting certain sectors by partially reimbursing investments made to set up plants, which would allow firms to recover costs faster than having to wait for production and sale, another official said. Trade expert Biswajit Dhar at the Delhi-based Council for Social Development think-tank, who has said the NDA government needs to do more to attract foreign investment, said the country might have missed its moment. The incentives program was "possibly the last chance we had to revive our manufacturing sector," he said. "If this kind of mega-scheme fails, do you have any expectation that anything is going to succeed?"

The stalling of manufacturing comes as India tries to circumvent the trade war unleashed by U.S. President Donald Trump, who has criticised Delhi's protectionist policies.

Mr. Trump's threat of reciprocal tariffs on countries like India that have a trade surplus with the U.S. means the export sector is increasingly challenged, said Mr. Dhar. "There was some amount of tariff protection ... and all that is going to be slashed."

Hits and misses

The program was introduced at an opportune time for India: China, which for decades had been the world's factory floor, was struggling to maintain production amid Beijing's zero-COVID policy. The U.S. was also seeking to reduce its economic reliance on an increasingly assertive Beijing, prompting many multinationals to pursue a "China plus one" policy of diversifying production lines.

With its large youthful population, lower costs and a government regarded as relatively friendly to the West, India seemed set to benefit.

India has become a global leader in pharmaceutical and mobile-phone production in recent years.

The country produced $49 billion worth of mobiles in the 2023-24 fiscal year, up 63% from 2020-21, government data show.

Similarly, pharmaceutical exports nearly doubled to $27.85 billion in 2023-24 from a decade ago.

WINDHOEK

Namibia inaugurates its first woman President Nandi-Ndaitwah

AP

Namibia on Friday inaugurated its first female President, Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, aged 72, extending SWAPO's 35-year rule. A liberation veteran since age 14, she secured 58% of votes in chaotic elections. Ms. Nandi-Ndaitwah pledged economic growth, universal healthcare, and climate action. AFP

JERUSALEM

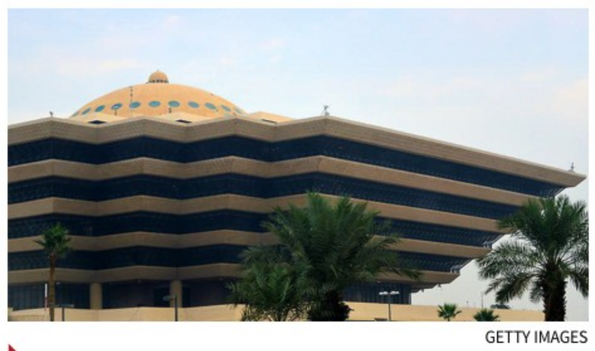
Israeli Supreme Court freezes dismissal of Shin Bet chief Bar

AFP

Israel's Supreme Court issued an injunction on Friday temporarily freezing Prime Minister Netanyahu's dismissal of Shin Bet chief Ronen Bar, citing petitions against the decision. Mr. Bar's removal follows tensions over Qatar-linked bribery investigations involving Mr. Netanyahu's aides. REUTERS

RIYADH

Saudi Arabia frees prisoners in apparent easing of crackdown



GETTY IMAGES

Saudi Arabia has released over 30 political prisoners since December, including activists jailed for social media posts, in an apparent rollback of "bad laws". While Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman criticised harsh sentences, analysts view these releases as image-driven rather than systemic reform. AFP

WASHINGTON

Trump signs Executive Order to dismantle Education Department

AP

President Donald Trump signed an Executive Order on Thursday to dismantle the Education Department, fulfilling a campaign promise. While Congress must approve its full closure, the order directs Education Secretary Linda McMahon to reduce its functions, retaining "core necessities" like Pell Grants and Title I funding. AP

Russia strikes Odesa, accuses Kyiv of blowing up gas facility in Kursk

Zelenskyy calls for increased international pressure on Russia, including 'sanctions and defence support', to counter the ongoing attacks and prolongation of the war; attacks come after both sides, under U.S. mediation, agreed to a limited truce

Associated Press
KYIV

Russian drones pummelled the Ukrainian Black Sea port city of Odesa, injuring three people and sparking massive fires, officials said on Friday, an attack that underlined Moscow's intention to pursue aerial strikes even as it agreed to temporarily halt strikes on energy facilities.

The head of the Odesa region, Oleh Kiper, said the city suffered "local emergency power outages" in three of its districts, an indication that the energy infrastructure of the city could have been damaged.

Air attack: A shopping mall destroyed following a drone attack in Odesa on Friday, amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine. AFP

Reacting to the attack, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that "joint pressure on Russia, strengthening sanctions and defence support for our state... is the way to stop such terror and Russia's prolongation of the war".

"We expect real pressure on Russia from the U.S., Europe and all our partners," Mr. Zelenskyy said in a statement on Telegram. "And this is what will allow diplomacy to work."

'Attack in Kursk'

Russia, meanwhile, accused Ukraine of blowing up a gas facility in the Kursk region, where Ukrainian forces have launched an incursion, in violation of the ceasefire deal. Ukraine denies the accusations.

The strike came shortly before Czech Republic President Peter Pavel visited Odesa early Friday morning and held meetings with the city's leaders and officials from other southern regions.

"This is another reminder to the whole world: the war continues and Ukraine continues to fight," Mr. Kiper said in a statement.

He reported blazes at at least three locations after the attack late on Thursday. "Civilian infrastructure, commercial facilities are on fire, cars damaged," Mr. Kiper said.

Over 70 people and 20 fire engines were involved in extinguishing what the emergency services called "massive fires".

Ukraine and Russia agreed in principle on Wednesday to a limited ceasefire after U.S. President Donald Trump spoke with the countries' leaders this week, though it remained to be seen what possible targets would be off limits to attack.

Trump must not give away concessions to Russia on behalf of Ukraine: Norway

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

U.S. President Donald Trump is giving away concessions on behalf of Ukraine, before negotiating with Russian President Vladimir Putin, said Norwegian Foreign Minister Espen Barth Eide.

Mr. Trump is giving Russia a "boost" at a time when Moscow is facing economic problems and military losses due to the Ukraine war, Mr. Eide said.

The Norwegian Minister was in Delhi for the Ministry of External Affairs' annual Raisina Dialogue conference, where the U.S.'s role in negotiating a Russia-Ukraine ceasefire dominated discussions.

As United States and Russian officials prepare for another round of talks in Riyadh on Monday, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said at the conference that India has suggested to both Moscow and Kyiv to conduct "direct talks" rather than negotiating through other countries.

Espen Barth Eide

Agreeable terms

In an interview with *The Hindu*, Mr. Eide said, "Most of the Russian economy is in trouble, and Russia was not in a good spot. And then Mr. Trump came in and started suggesting some concessions, to be given prior to negotiations."

"It is important that Mr. Trump does not give away positions on behalf of Ukrainians that they don't agree to," Mr. Eide said in a reference to Mr. Trump's comments on recognising Crimea as part of Russia and calling on Ukraine to "forget about" joining NATO.

"The war is between Russia and Ukraine. So ceasefire has to be owned by the Ukrainians and obviously, by the Russians," Mr. Eide said. "The way the Americans have been playing this has given a new boost to Russia," the Minister added.

The way forward

The U.S. has claimed a limited ceasefire is now in place with both Russia and Ukraine agreeing to avoid attacking each other's energy and infrastructure installations. However, differences over the way forward persist.

Ukraine's Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha has said Ukraine's "red lines" include not ceding Ukrainian territory occupied by Russia formally, and not accepting curbs on their military power or foreign policy.

However, State Duma (Russian Parliament) member Vyacheslav Nikonov, who was present at the conference said that no talks could be held with Ukrainian negotiators at present, as Russia considers the Volodymyr Zelenskyy government, whose tenure has ended, "illegitimate".

"Constitutionally, [President Zelenskyy] is not legitimate, and this makes a difference, because if Ukraine signs an agreement, but a future government says it won't accept it, what will happen?" Mr. Nikonov said, speaking to *The Hindu*.

India has thus far rejected calls to criticise Russia for the war since the invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Speaking at the Raisina Dialogue, Mr. Jaishankar said that countries who had been unhappy with India's position in the past were now more accepting of India's "common-sense position", and that India had told the Russian leadership that war would not resolve the issue, and told the Ukrainian leadership to speak directly to Russia.

Tough position

In the past few weeks, Norway has taken a tough position on the Trump administration's policy on Ukraine, particularly after the showdown at the White House between Mr. Trump and Mr. Zelenskyy. Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre has been more outspoken than other European leaders in standing with Mr. Zelenskyy.

"This is not like a football match where you pick a team. There is an aggressor and there's a victim of that aggression. In international law, it's crystal clear who was the aggressor, and that is Russia," Mr. Eide said in the interview.

Sudan's military 'retakes' Khartoum's Republican Palace

Associated Press
CAIRO

Sudan's military said on Friday it retook the Republican Palace in Khartoum, the last heavily guarded bastion of rival paramilitary forces in the capital, after nearly two years of fighting.

The seizure of the Republican Palace, surrounded by government ministries, represents a major symbolic victory for Sudan's military against the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF). However, it likely does not mean the end of the war as the RSF holds territory in Sudan's western Darfur region and elsewhere.

Khaled al-Aiser, Sudan's Information Minister, said the military had retaken the palace in a post on X.

A politician associated with the RSF called it part of "the ups and downs" of history. The RSF later issued a statement claiming its forces "are still present of the vicinity of the area, fighting bravely".

Power outage shuts down Heathrow, disrupts flights

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

As many as 37 flights between India and London Heathrow could be hit after a massive power outage forced London Heathrow airport to shut operations on March 21.

"Due to a fire at an electrical substation supplying the airport, Heathrow is experiencing a significant power outage. To maintain the safety of our passengers and colleagues, Heathrow will be closed until 23:59 on 21 March," the airport said on X. It has advised passengers not to travel to the airport and contact their airlines.

Over 14 hours later, at 4 p.m. London time, the airport said in a statement that flights were restarting and repatriation flights would be prioritised.

According to aviation analytics firm Cirium, 1,186 flights are scheduled between India and Heathrow Airport in March. This gives a figure of 38 flights a day. British Airways had one planned cancellation on Friday in advance.

Many passengers also take one-stop flights via airports in the Gulf such as Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Doha who will also be impacted.

Over 1,300 flights were scheduled to depart from and arrive at London Heathrow on Friday, according to Cirium. This means nearly 2.9 lakh passengers could be impacted, There were 669 flights scheduled to depart on March 21. Air India had six flights scheduled on Friday. Its Heathrow-bound AI129 from Mumbai returned to the airport of origin; AI161 from Delhi was diverted to Frankfurt.

Sport

SNAPSHOTS

Hamilton takes pole for Chinese GP sprint

SHANGHAI: Lewis Hamilton put Ferrari on pole position for the first Formula One sprint race of the season in China in record time of one minute 30.849 seconds on Friday with Red Bull's reigning champion Max Verstappen joining him on the front row.

McLaren's Oscar Piastri qualified third with Ferrari's Charles Leclerc fourth.

Well done, son! Lewis Hamilton is greeted by his father Anthony after his superb drive on Friday. AFP

Vinicius fires stoppage time winner for Brazil

BRASILIA: Vinicius Junior struck a winner in the ninth minute of stoppage time to give Brazil a 2-1 win over Colombia in its South American World Cup qualifier on Thursday.

The five-time World champion had taken a sixth-minute lead in Brasilia through a Raphinha penalty only for Luis Diaz to level the game in the 41st minute.

The victory leaves Brazil well-positioned in second place in the 10-team CONMEBOL qualifying group, four points behind leader Argentina.

Paraguay beat bottom-placed Chile 1-0 in Asuncion, a result that left La Roja rooted to the bottom of the table. Peru got the better of Bolivia 3-1 in another match.

The results: Brazil 2 (Raphinha 6-pen, Vinicius Junior 90+9) bt Colombia 1 (Luis Diaz 41); Peru 3 (Andy Polo 37, Paolo Guerrero 45, Edison Flores 82) bt Bolivia 1 (Miguel Terceros 58-pen); Paraguay 1 (Omar Alderete 60) bt Chile 0.

Germany gets the better of Italy, Croatia downs France

PARIS: Germany are in prime position to host the final stage of the tournament after coming from behind to beat Italy 2-1 and Mikel Merino's 93rd-minute equaliser earned Spain a 2-2 draw against the Netherlands in Nations League quarterfinal first leg action on Thursday.

Croatia has one foot in the semifinals after beating France 2-0, while Rasmus Hojlund fired Denmark to a 1-0 win over Portugal.

The results: Quarterfinals (first leg): Netherlands 2 (Gakpo 28, Reijnders 46) drew with Spain 2 (Williams 9, Merino 90+3); Croatia 2 (Budimir 26, Perisic 45+1) bt France 0.

Denmark 1 (Hojlund 78) bt Portugal 0; Italy 1 (Tonali 9) lost to Germany 2 (Kleindienst 49, Goretzka 76).

It's Cigar Galaxy vs. Darrington in feature event

BENGALURU: Stablemates Cigar Galaxy and Darrington may fight out the finish of the Governor's Trophy (1,600m), the feature event of the concluding day's races here on Saturday (March 22). There will be no false rails.

1 INFINITE STAKES (1,200m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 12-45 p.m.: 1. Aphelion (1) Salman Khan 56, 2. Hyperdrive (10) Akshay K 56, 3. Imperador (9) Trevor 56, 4. Konkrah (5) Sandesh 56, 5. Polo Star (7) G. Vivek 56, 6. Ransomware (11) M. Rajesh K 56, 7. Stalingrad (2) Arvind K 56, 8. The Commander (6) Likith Appu 56, 9. Assurances (3) Vinod Shinde 54.5, 10. Husanara (8) Neeraj 54.5 and 11. Vibrant Queen (4) R. Pradeep 54.5.

1. IMPERADOR, 2. VIBRANT QUEEN, 3. POLE STAR

2 PRESS REPORTERS CUP (DIV. II), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 1-15: 1. Treasure Chest (8) Trevor 61, 2. Superhero (2) Akshay K 57, 3. Emeraldo (11) Aleemuddin 55, 4. Anchorage (7) C.A. Brisson 54.5, 5. Multisided (10) R. Pradeep 54, 6. Princess Jasmine (5) Suhas K 54, 7. Sea Diamond (4) Vinod Shinde 53, 8. Pettes Love (9) Likith Appu 52, 9. Quick Witted (1) M. Rajesh K 52, 10. Southernaristocrat (6) A. Prakash 52 and 11. Akasi (3) Shreyas S 50.5.

1. TREASURE CHEST, 2. MULTISIDED, 3. ANCHORAGE

3 CHAMPION JOCKEY TROPHY (DIV. II), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 1-45: 1. Victoriaraya (7) Suhas K 60, 2. Equalizer (8) Salman Khan 55.5, 3. Highland Dream (11) Laxman S 55.5, 4. Majesticmerlin (2) G. Praveen 55.5, 5. Star Honour (1) Neeraj 55.5, 6. Glowing Moonlights (3) Arvind K 54.5, 7. Mericle Beauty (9) R. Pradeep 54, 8. Absolute Katrina (6) Likith Appu 53.5, 9. Daiki (5) M. Rajesh K 53.5, 10. Gismo (12) Vishwa. V 53.5, 11. N R I Victory (10) Jagadeesh 53.5 and 12. Jully (4) Shreyas S 53.

1. STAR HONOUR, 2. GLOWING MOONLIGHTS, 3. VICTORIARAYA

4 PRESS REPORTERS CUP (DIV. I), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 2-15: 1. Thewhisperquietly (4) Aleemuddin 62, 2. Honourable Lady (2) Darshan 60.5, 3. Mystical Air (9) Trevor 60, 4. Breeze Bluster (5) Likith Appu 59.5, 5. Bruce Almighty (3) Afsar 59, 6. Stravinsky (1) M. Rajesh K 59, 7. Lex Luthor (7) A. Prakash 58, 8. Turkoman (8) C.A. Brisson 57.5, 9. Double Vision (10) Neeraj 57 and 10. Super Kind (6) Akshay K 57.

1. MYSTICAL AIR, 2. DOUBLE VISION, 3. THEWHISPERQUIETLY

5 CHAMPION TRAINER TROPHY (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 5-y-o & over, 2-45: 1. Aquamatic (8) Akshay K 62.5, 2. Crosswater (10) Antony 58.5, 3. Dufy (1) Trevor 57.5, 4. Super Marvella (6) S. Sachin 57.5, 5. Baashha (4) Neeraj 57, 6. Dynamic Force (2) Darshan 57, 7. Amazing Attraction (7) Salman Khan 55, 8. Disruptor (5) L.A. Rozario 55, 9. Isabella (3) Pavan 55, 10. Prophecy (12) Sandesh 54, 11. All Attraction (11) Koshi K 53.5 and 12. Lady Invictus (9) Vinod Shinde 53.

1. DUFY, 2. BAASHHA, 3. CROSSWATER

6 LEADING STUD TROPHY (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 3-15: 1. Aherne (11) Darshan 60.5, 2. N R I Ace (8) Antony 60.5, 3. Knotty One (5) G. Vivek 60, 4. La Mcqueen (6) Aleemuddin 59.5, 5. Ladylion (3) Arvind K 55, 6. Positivity (10) Vinod Shinde 54, 7. Klimt (4) Koshi K 53, 8. N R I Touch (1) Jagadeesh 51.5, 9. Sira (9) Likith Appu 51.5, 10. Dr Ash (2) M. Rajesh K 51 and 11. Agera (7) Shreyas S 50.5.

1. LADYLION, 2. KNOTTY ONE, 3. N R I ACE

7 LEADING OWNER TROPHY (1,600m), rated 60 to 85, 3-45: 1. Forseti (4) Trevor 62, 2. Metzinger (2) Suraj 62, 3. Dun It Again (7) Suhas K 61.5, 4. Sekhmet (1) Antony 58, 5. Auspicious Queen (6) Neeraj 55, 6. Golden Time (3) Koshi K 53 and 7. Elpenor (5) Shreyas S 50.

1. FORSETI, 2. METZINGER

8 GOVERNOR'S TROPHY (1,600m), 3-y-o, (Terms), 4-15: 1. Cigar Galaxy (4) Trevor 57, 2. Darrington (1) L.A. Rozario 57, 3. Gold Empire (3) Suraj 57 and 4. Midnight Blue (2) Antony 57.

1. CIGAR GALAXY, 2. DARRINGTON

9 CHAMPION JOCKEY TROPHY (DIV. I), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 4-45: 1. Connecting Dots (1) Darshan 62.5, 2. Lockheed (12) Salman Khan 60, 3. Priceless Prince (8) H. Chandragiri 60, 4. War Trail (6) R. Robert 60, 5. Martino (5) Arvind K 58, 6. Peridot (7) A. Ramu 58, 7. Carter (2) Rayan 57, 8. Westlake (10) Antony 56.5, 9. Real Happiness (4) Tousif 56, 10. Vafadar (9) Trevor 56, 11. Desert Goddess (11) Sandesh 55 and 12. Martha (3) M. Rajesh K 54.

1. VAFADAR, 2. DESERT GODDESS, 3. CONNECTING DOTS

10 GOOD-BYE CUP (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 5-15: 1. Legendary Impact (7) Akshay K 62.5, 2. N R I Millennium (11) Pavan 62.5, 3. Posthaste (10) Vishwa. V 62.5, 4. Empress Bella (12) A. Prakash 61, 5. Meghann (6) Laxman S 60, 6. Estefania (4) Antony 59.5, 7. Glaze (9) M. Rajesh K 59.5, 8. Sacred Creator (2) B. Harish 59.5, 9. Chinky Pinky (3) Trevor 59, 10. Chiraag (1) Vinod Shinde 59, 11. Recreator (8) Likith Appu 57 and 12. Master Victory (5) Salman Khan 51.

1. LEGENDARY IMPACT, 2. CHINKY PINKY, 3. CHIRAAG

Day's best: **IMPERADOR**

Double: **FORSETI – LEGENDARY IMPACT**

Jkt: 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7; (iii): 8, 9 and 10.

DAMPENER

Rain cuts short Knight Riders and Royal Challengers' training

RITU RAJ KONWAR

Unseasonal rain played spoilsport on the eve of the IPL-18 season-opening contest between Kolkata Knight Riders and Royal Challengers Bengaluru at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Friday. The teams had to wrap up their practice sessions early before the ground staff covered the whole ground.

FAIR BALANCE

Ball-change rule timely and a good one, feels RCB head coach Flower

RITU RAJ KONWAR

"I've always wondered why there was this reticence on the umpire's part to change the ball, to make it an even and fair contest. We're always looking for a fair balance between bat and ball. In conditions where dew does affect matches significantly, I think that's a really good rule change and about time," RCB head coach Andy Flower.

LEARNING CURVE

KKR star Varun trying to improve tactical side of the game

RITU RAJ KONWAR

"The ball can deviate only in three ways. It can go left, right or straight. So, it just depends on how I am going to choose those balls. The sequencing. That is where the tactical side of the game comes and that is where I am trying to improve," KKR's mystery spinner Varun Chakaravarthy.

SAFETY FIRST

'Kohli can't take much risk unlike Rohit due to team combination'

RITU RAJ KONWAR

Virat Kohli has the skill to score runs at a healthy strike-rate like Rohit Sharma, but RCB's team composition is such that he needs to adopt a risk-free approach, said former Australia skipper Aaron Finch. "When you look at the way Rohit has done it (at MI), have a look at the players that he's had around him".

Indian cricket's reactionary child turns 18... how fast the night changes!

The IPL is not averse to taking bold steps as it enters adulthood with the confidence of having overcome various challenges over the years

N. Sudarshan

When the Indian Premier League baby was born in 2008, it had a burden to carry. Birthed by Lalit Modi and blessed by the ruling BCCI, the IPL came into existence to mainly thwart the rebel Indian Cricket League and maintain the governing body's monopoly over the sport in the country.

In the 17 years since then, it is safe to say that the reactionary child has lived up to expectations. With the foundational goal met pretty early, an unshackled IPL has experienced life to the fullest.

Even corruption and betting scandals have been overcome, like how canny adolescents tackle the struggles and uncertainties that mark boyhood and youth.

And come Saturday at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata, when the clock strikes half past seven in the evening, the IPL will turn a major, fully ready to march ahead with even more clarity, strength and confidence.

Independent mind

Such is its independent mind that it hasn't shied away from introducing bespoke changes outside of international cricket – Impact Player rule, naming XIs after the toss, revoking of saliva ban and a ball change in the middle of the second innings to counter the effect of dew. It has even taken to banning players for last-minute pull outs (Harry Brook)!

Another coming-of-age story is that nine of 10 designated captains in IPL-18 will be Indians. Of the nine, only three - Hardik Pandya (Mumbai Indians), Axar Patel (Delhi Capitals) and Sanju Samson (Rajasthan Royals) - are regulars in the National T20 team and India captain Suryakumar Yadav is a stand-in leader at MI! Signs of the League maturing or a twist of fate, time will tell.

How these men marshal their new-look teams in the aftermath of the mega auction will be keenly watched.

While Mumbai, Chennai Super Kings and Sunrisers Hyderabad have retained their cores, the other outfits will need to gel quickly. With the T20 World Cup only in February 2026 and India set to play a lot of T20Is in the lead-up, this IPL is not necessarily make-or-break.

More than player selection, the interesting storylines thus will be R. Ashwin's return to CSK, MI's response after last season's wooden-spoon finish amidst a leadership fiasco, Shreyas Iyer's shift from KKR – whom he led to the title in 2024 – to Punjab Kings and Royal Challengers Bengaluru's novel superstar-agnostic approach.

Rahul Dravid, India's T20 World Cup-winning coach, and Englishman Jofra Archer are back at Rajasthan Royals even as Jos Buttler has moved to neighbouring Gujarat Titans.

SRH, helmed by Aussie Pat Cummins, revolutionised T20 batting in the previous edition – albeit aided by the comfort of potentially having an extra batter via the Impact Player rule – and it remains to be seen if the benchmark rises further.

The Shubman Gill-led Titans will hope to look like a T20 team rather than the One-Day team it was last year while PBKS – forever in refresh mode – will pray that the Shreyas-Ricky Ponting captain-coach combo works like it did at Capitals in 2020 (runner-up finish).

Rishabh Pant and K.L. Rahul have swapped places at Lucknow Super Giants and Capitals, and LSG will especially want high returns for the record ₹27 crore it paid for the maverick southpaw.

The originals

Eyeballs will also be fixated on the seemingly ageless trio of Dhoni, Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma. The three have played since the IPL's inception, contributed immensely to the competition becoming the world's best T20 extravaganza and steadfastly refused to set a career end date. *18 Til I Die*?

Ready to Rumble

As the 18th chapter of the world's biggest T20 carnival gets underway on Saturday, a glance at the records and record-makers

MOST TITLES
Mumbai Indians and Chennai Super Kings 5 (each)

MOST FINALS
Chennai Super Kings 10

SUCCESS RATE

	GT	CSK	LSG	MI	KKR	RR	RCB	SRH	DC	PBKS
Matches	45	237	43	261	251	219	252	182	250	246
Wins	**28**	**138**	**24**	**144**	**131**	**112**	**123**	**88**	**115**	**112**
Win %	62.22	58.23	55.81	55.17	52.19	51.14	48.81	48.35	46.00	45.52

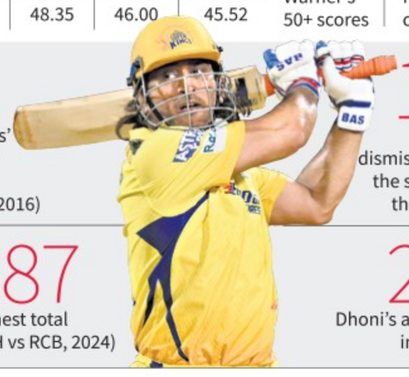
No Result matches not included

TOP OF THE PILE

OVERALL		IN 2024
Kohli (8004)	Runs	Kohli (741), RCB
Gayle (357)	Sixes	Abhishek (42), SRH
Chahal (205)	Wickets	Harshal* (24), PBKS
Bhuvneshwar (1729)	Dot balls	Bumrah (149), MI

** Harshal will turn up for SRH in 2025*

229 Kohli-de Villiers' second-wicket stand (RCB v Gujarat Lions, 2016)



190 Dhoni's dismissals behind the stumps with the big gloves

549 Match aggregate (RCB v SRH, 2024)

287 Highest total (SRH vs RCB, 2024)

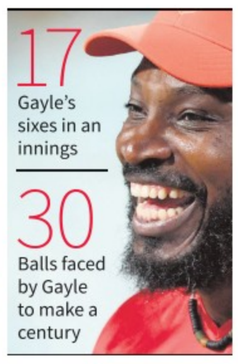
264 Dhoni's appearances in the league

3 Amit Mishra's hat-tricks

8 Three-figure knocks by Kohli

8 Four-wicket hauls by Narine

13 Deliveries taken by Jaiswal to reach 50



17 Gayle's sixes in an innings

30 Balls faced by Gayle to make a century

49 Lowest total (RCB vs KKR, 2017)

66 Warner's 50+ scores

114 Kohli's catch collection

Who will be the last four standing?

New and old: While Salt and Kishan will be in RCB and SRH colours, Kuldeep and Venkatesh will continue with DC and KKR.

N. Sudarshan

Predicting favourites is tough business. It is an exercise that at once feels very rational and logical but also instinctive and guesswork-heavy. In a competition like the IPL, it is all the more difficult, for squads are chopped and changed every three years.

Yet, looking back at 17 years of history, one can claim to have some foreknowledge about how things may eventually pan out. We know how certain captains operate, a few coaches strategise and a lot of pitches behave.

With the help of past information, a dose of intuitive intelligence and a big prayer, here is an attempt to zero-in on a potential top-four, not necessarily in that order.

Sunrisers Hyderabad: SRH's ultra-aggressive batting last year took the IPL by storm and played a big role in the side reaching the final. For the 2025 edition, it has retained the players who helped achieve that – Abhishek Sharma, Travis Head, Heinrich Klaasen and Nitish Kumar Reddy – and has added the dashing Ishan Kishan.

It has reshuffled the bowling pack but by no means does it appear inadequate, for it has brought in the likes of Mohammed Shami. In Pat Cummins, there is a calm head, which in the breakneck world of T20 cricket can often be the difference between victory and defeat.

Kolkata Knight Riders: KKR doesn't have Shreyas Iyer, its title-winning captain from 2024. It doesn't have Mitchell Starc, the bowler who spelt doom for opponents in the playoffs. And it doesn't have mentor Gautam Gambhir and his band of merry men. But it has always been a team with a near-perfect mix of novelty and time-tested-ness. If appointing Ajinkya Rahane as the captain was a patented left-field move, retaining Andre Russell, Varun Chakaravarthy, Sunil Narine, and welcoming back Venkatesh Iyer for a handsome price (₹23.75 crore) was a pointer towards continuity. Another run to the business end is very much in the realm of possibility.

Delhi Capitals: On paper, DC has a superb set of players. But as the adage in elite sport goes, two plus two rarely equals four. Yet, DC's is a squad that is brimming with promise and feels so full of possibilities. If it doesn't finish among the four best teams, it will be mighty disappointing. Its foreign contingent is swashbuckling, for it comprises Jake Fraser-McGurk, Faf du Plessis, Tristan Stubbs and Starc.

The homegrown talent is tried and tested with the likes of K.L. Rahul, T. Natarajan, Mukesh Kumar and Mohit Sharma. The spin combination of Axar Patel and Kuldeep Yadav is something most sides will kill to have. So what's not to like?

Royal Challengers Bengaluru: For as long as one can remember, RCB has been the butt of everyone's jokes. Despite the overarching presence of Virat Kohli, it has never won the IPL and has lost thrice in the final. But this season, there is genuine belief that it has built an outfit that is capable enough. Its primary abode, the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, offers no discernible home advantage, for it is small, loved by every batter in the world and sends most bowlers - including those from RCB - on leather hunts. Yet, for the upcoming campaign, it feels like RCB has the requisite power-hitting capability and astute bowlers to counter largely unfriendly conditions. *Ee sala cup....*

Battle of the new skippers as KKR hosts RCB

Y.B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

'Well begun is half done' should be the mantra for Kolkata Knight Riders and Royal Challengers Bengaluru when they, led by new captains Ajinkya Rahane and Rajat Patidar respectively, meet in the much-awaited Indian Premier League-18 season opener at the iconic Eden Gardens here on Saturday.

Despite the rain threat, the fans are excited to witness some high-quality action preceded by a music-and-dance show, starring actor Disha Patani and singer Shreya Ghoshal, as an IPL opener returns to the Eden after a decade.

Armed with the wisdom of Rahane and Virat Kohli, the two well-balanced sides will look to adapt to the pitch, known for staging high-scoring entertainers.

Engrossing duel: Patidar will be up against the experienced Rahane in the opener. RITU RAJ KONWAR

A 20-14 win-loss record against RCB, including a thrilling one-run win here in their last encounter, will give the defending champion a psychological edge.

With a semi-new setup at the helm and a seasoned bunch in its core, the KKR steering wheel has changed hands from a younger and exuberant Shreyas Iyer to a mature and composed Rahane.

While Quinton de Kock and Sunil Narine can provide a brisk start, Rahane and his deputy Venkatesh Iyer will offer stability and flexibility. Trusted accelerators Rinku Singh and Andre Russell will relish the death overs. Mystery spinners Narine and Varun Chakaravarthy, and pacers Harshit Rana and Anrich Nortje will be vital components in the KKR attack.

Patidar, with the added responsibility of captaincy, and Kohli, capable of wooing the home fans too, will be RCB's batting mainstays.

Former KKR opener Phil Salt will look to perform in the same explosive fashion in a different jersey while the big-hitting Tim David can be useful when summoned.

Pacers Josh Hazlewood, Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Yash Dayal and left-arm spinner Krunal Pandya will be the backbone of the RCB attack. The contest, the first under new regulations, should be fascinating.

Today's match

KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS vs RCB

Kolkata, 7.30 P.M.

HEAD-TO-HEAD

Played: 34

KKR 20 | RCB 14

PREVIOUS MEETING

KKR won by one run, 2024

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIOHOTSTAR

Top players will support Patidar, says Flower

Y. B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

RCB coach Andy Flower said the top players in the side would assist new captain Rajat Patidar.

"A lot of these guys have captained state sides, IPL and international teams. Having influential people in your squad, guys that have performed at the top level, will give him a lot of confidence," he said.

"We were conscious of that in our recruitment and they will be able to provide support to Rajat. He is really excited about the challenge."

Flower also said that reintroducing the usage of saliva to polish the ball will not make much of a difference.

INBRIEF

England women's cricket team coach Lewis leaves job

England is looking for a new coach for its women's national cricket team after Jon Lewis left his post Friday following poor results at the T20 World Cup and in the Ashes series. The England and Wales Cricket Board said it would provide an update on a new coach "in due course".

Returning Officer pauses upcoming BFI elections

The upcoming Boxing Federation of India (BFI) elections were "paused" on Friday by Returning Officer R.K. Gauba after the Delhi and Himachal Pradesh High Courts directed the body to reinstate names that were omitted from the electoral college owing to a March 7 directive by BFI president Ajay Singh. Singh wrote to Gauba on Friday, stating that the BFI is seeking urgent intervention from a superior court due to the "conflicting orders" issued by the two high courts. The election is scheduled for March 28.

Athletics Integrity Unit bans two more Indian athletes

Indian long distance runners Pradhan Kirulkar and Vivek More have been banned for three and five years respectively by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) after they tested positive for prohibited substances. Both athletes' positive results were from in-competition tests conducted during the Pune Half Marathon on December 15, 2024. Kirulkar's ban period was to be four years but it was reduced by one year following his early admission of the doping offence and acceptance of sanction. More was to be suspended for six years for testing positive for multiple prohibited substances but he was given one year reduction in the ban period due to his early admission of the doping offence and acceptance of sanction.

Ankita-Nugroho pair makes the summit clash

Ankita Raina and Priska Nugroho of Indonesia beat Jiaqi Wang and Chengyiyi Yuan of China 7-5, 7-5 in the doubles semifinals of the $60,000 ITF women's tennis tournament in Luan, China, on Friday. In the final, Ankita and Priska will play Kristina Dmitruk and Kira Pavlova.

Other results: €91,250 Challenger, Murcia, Spain: Doubles (quarterfinals): Anirudh Chandrasekar & David Hernandez (Esp) bt Johannes Ingildsen (Den) & david Stevenson (GBr) 6-4, 6-3; Edas Butvilas (Ltu) & Ramkumar Ramanathan bt Romain Arneodo (Mon) & Manuel Guinard (Fra) 6-3, 6-3.

$15,000 ITF women, Monastir, Tunisia: Doubles (quarterfinals): Iva Ivanova (Bul) & Daria Yesypchuk (Ukr) bt India Houghton (USA) & Tanisha Kashyap 7-6(7), 6-3.

LIVE TELECAST

Formula One: Chinese GP, Sprint Race, F1 TV, F1 TV Pro & FanCode, 8.30 a.m.; Qualifying, 12.30 p.m.

IPL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 7.30 p.m.

Anahat and Chotrani emerge champions

Top seed Akanksha comes a cropper in women's final; the men's second seed beats Frenchman Scianimanico to win maiden PSA title in India

SQUASH

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
CHENNAI

Anahat Singh claimed her tenth PSA title and Veer Chotrani his first in India at the SRFI Indian Tour Squash Championship - a PSA Challenger event - at the Indian Squash and Triathlon Academy (ISTA) here on Friday.

In a repeat of the Western India Open final in Mumbai in December last year, Anahat prevailed over compatriot and top seed Akanksha Salunkhe 11-6, 8-11, 11-8, 11-5 in the women's final.

Akanksha can take heart from the fact that she managed to take a game off Anahat, having lost in straight games in that last final between the two.

Friday's finals highlighted the champions' ability to come from behind in an all-to-play-for clash. Anahat won seven consecutive points to secure the third game 11-8 from 4-8 down.

Winning feeling: Chotrani and Anahat, the champions. R. RAVINDRAN

Men's second seed Chotrani, who'd rallied after losing the first game, won eight points in a row to clinch the third 11-6 from 3-6 down. He beat Frenchman Melvil Scianimanico 3-11, 12-10, 11-6, 11-7.

Expressing his thoughts on his maiden PSA title win in India, Chotrani said: "I'm very happy. I didn't expect it, honestly. Because, this glass court (centre court at ISTA) and me have a bad relationship. I never performed well on this glass court, but I think that it's gone from my head now. It's always nice to win at home."

It was Chotrani's sixth PSA title overall.

The results (finals): Men: Veer Chotrani bt Melvil Scianimanico (Fra) 3-11, 12-10, 11-6, 11-7.

Women: Anahat Singh bt Akanksha Salunkhe 11-6, 8-11, 11-8, 11-5.

Sankar upsets Antonsen; Treesa-Gayatri in semis

BADMINTON

Press Trust of India
BASEL

India's S. Sankar Muthusamy caused a major upset by knocking out world No. 2 Anders Antonsen of Denmark in a thrilling three-game contest to reach the men's singles quarterfinals of the Swiss Open Super 300 badminton tournament here on Thursday.

The 21-year-old from Tamil Nadu, a silver medallist at the 2022 World Junior Championships and currently ranked 64th in the world, put up an impressive display to defeat the three-time World Championships medallist 18-21, 21-12, 21-5 in a 66-minute contest.

The win marks one of the biggest victories of Sankar's career.

Next, the Indian will face world No. 31 Christo Popov of France.

Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand stormed into the women's doubles semifinal with a clinical 21-18, 21-14 win over Hong Kong's Pui Lam Yeung and Nga Ting Yeung on Friday.

Giant-killer: Sankar put up an impressive display to stun Antonsen. FILE PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

Isharani Baruah lost 19-21, 21-18, 18-21 to China's Han Qian Xi in 63 minutes. Anupama Upadhyaya was ousted by Indonesia's world No. 11 Putri Kusuma Wardani as she lost 17-21, 19-21 in another women's singles second round match.

The mixed doubles pair of Sathish Karunakaran and Aadya Variyath lost 14-21, 16-21 to Liu Kuang Heng and Jheng Yu Chieh.

The results: Men: Second round: S. Sankar Muthusamy bt Anders Antonsen (Den) 18-21, 21-12, 21-5.

Women: Second round: Han Qian Xi (Chn) bt Isharani Baruah 21-19, 18-21, 21-18; Putri Kusuma Wardani (Ina) bt Anupama Upadhyaya 21-17, 21-19.

Women's doubles: Quarterfinals: Treesa Jolly & Gayatri Gopichand bt Yeung Pui Lam and Yeung Nga Ting (Hkg) 21-18, 211-4.

Mixed doubles: Second round: Liu Kuang Heng & Jheng Yu Chieh (Tpe) bt Sathish Karunakaran & Aadya Variyath 21-14, 21-16.

Happy to win biggest PSA event: Anahat

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
CHENNAI

Following the SRFI Indian Tour Squash Championship here on Friday, Anahat Singh expressed her happiness at having won the title in the biggest PSA event she's ever played.

"This is the biggest PSA (event) I've played. It's a $15k event. And I'm really happy that I was able to win it as well. I've worked hard for this. It was really important for me to win this tournament.

"It really boosts my ranking, because it's a big tournament. And that in turn will help me play a lot of the bigger tournaments as well. My aim is to get into the top-50 (in the PSA rankings, currently 82) and then slowly into the top-20," she said.

The 17-year-old has had Indian squash icon Saurav Ghosal as her mentor for around a year now. Speaking about his impact on her squash, she said: "He's there more like outside court. He's telling me what tournaments to play and how to go on with my training. "Before Saurav was there, we were like without a thought - playing every single tournament and not having a clear structure as to what I should

be playing. But I think in the last one year, he told me not to go so much for the junior tournaments, which aren't as important right now. Because, u-19 (circuit) isn't as important in my PSA (career). So, I think I've slowed down a lot on that."

She expressed her desire to do well in the even bigger JSW Indian Open, a PSA World Tour Copper event, set to get underway in Mumbai on March 24.

Anahat... on the rise. FILE PHOTO

L. Keerthana and Prashant.

Prashant and Keerthana clinch titles

NATIONAL CARROMS

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Reserve Bank of India's Prashant More and Tamil Nadu's L. Keerthana won the men's and women's titles in the 52nd National carrom championship here on Friday.

Former World champion Prashant proved too strong for Jain Irrigation Systems Limited's Sandeep Dive as he raced to a 25-9, 10-25, 25-2 victory. Keerthana beat the World Cup champion, M. Khazima of Petroleum Sports Promotion Board (PSPB) in a thrilling fashion in the women's final, with the score of 16-20, 25-2, 14-12.

The results (final): Men: Prashant More (RBI) bt Sandeep Dive (JISL) 25-9, 10-25, 25-2.
Women: L. Keerthana (TN) bt M. Khazima (PSPB) 16-20, 25-2, 14-12.

'Win over Antonsen a huge morale-booster'

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

Indian shuttler S. Sankar Muthusamy has been playing hard and working harder with his coach Aravindan Samiappan for the last two years on various facets of the game, but somehow the results weren't coming.

Everything came together in Basel, Switzerland, on Thursday night when the 21-year-old qualifier from Chennai pulled off the biggest upset of his career with a stunning win over World No.2 Anders Antonsen of Denmark in the pre-quarterfinals of the BWF Super 300 Swiss Open.

Speaking to *The Hindu* on Friday from Basel, Sankar, ranked world No.44, said: "I've been playing well in the Swiss Open, being quite sharp with my strokes than usual. The win over Antonsen is a huge morale-booster. Of course, all wins are equally good. In fact, the way I've played in the tournament against M. Tharun (in the second qualifying round) and in the round of 32 against Magnus Johannesen of Denmark, has been solid. The wins against the two players were equally important."

Sankar. FILE PHOTO: NIGAMANTH P.

Aravindan was thrilled with the performance of his ward who was removed from the TOPS (Target Olympic Podium Scheme) Developmental Group. "It's huge. It has not sunk in. Actually, we have been working for the last two years on his offence. When he reached the quarterfinals of the Thailand Masters this year, we knew he'll get the break. He had a few niggles on his right knee from last year, which didn't turn out to be great. We hope the victory over Antonsen will propel him. Hopefully he will crack the top-50 soon," he said.

MP men enter quarterfinals

BASKETBALL

Sports Bureau

Madhya Pradesh relied on Son Kumar (26) and Rakesh Kumar Sharma (22) to pip Maharashtra 84-79 and enter the men's quarterfinals in the National under-23 basketball championships at the Sarusajai Stadium, Guwahati, on Friday.

Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Rajasthan, Kerala, Punjab and the winner of the match between Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal will feature in the men's quarterfinals. Kerala, Chandigarh, TN, UP, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Maharashtra and Karnataka have reached the last-eight stage in the women's section.

The results (pre-quarterfinals):

Men: Rajasthan 83 bt Andhra Pradesh 74; Punjab 95 bt Nagaland 51; Tamil Nadu 70 bt Gujarat 56; Karnataka 107 bt Assam 84; Kerala 73 bt Delhi 64; Haryana 76 bt Bihar 57; Madhya Pradesh 84 bt Maharashtra 79.

Women: Chandigarh 77 bt Rajasthan 72; Delhi 73 bt Punjab 68; Uttar Pradesh 58 bt Meghalaya 26; Karnataka 66 bt Madhya Pradesh 29.

JioStar aspires to make it the biggest IPL ever

Shayan Acharya
MUMBAI

The 2025 edition of the Indian Premier League will be a marquee event for JioStar, formed through the merger of Disney's Star India and Reliance's Viacom18.

"Our ambition around the IPL continues to be about growth. So we are aspiring to make this the biggest IPL ever – both in terms of viewership, as well as the business around IPL," Sanjog Gupta, the CEO-Sports at JioStar, told *The Hindu*.

"The ambition is to engage with a 100 crore viewers at different levels of engagement, which obviously means that we will look to recruit a large number of new viewers who had not engaged with IPL last season."

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Jayanagar Cricketers triumphs

Jayanagar Cricketers defeated Palar Sports Club (Kolar) in the final to emerge as the KSCA Group I, Division III league champion here.

The scores: Palar Sports Club (Kolar) 140 in 40.3 overs (D. Chiranth 32, Preetesh 30, Shivanagouda Patil 3/30, Sheetal Kumar 4/32) lost to Jayanagar Cricketers 144/6 in 40.5 overs (Darling Krishna 38, Faizan Raiz 33).

Kishan and Geetha take the honours

R. Kishan and P. Geetha won the men's and women's titles respectively in the Karnataka State-ranking tenpin bowling tournament at Amoeba Bowling Center here.

In the men's final, Kishan defeated Akaash Ashok Kumar by 108 pins (437-329). In the women's summit clash, Geetha took out Judy Alban 346 - 337.

All smiles: Jayanagar Cricketers was crowned the KSCA Group I, Division III league champion. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Special prizes: Highest average in 6 game block (Men): R. Kishan (223.33).
Highest average in 18 games (Men): R. Kishan (210.00).
Highest average in 12 games (Women): Judy Alban (168.92).

DYES FC posts win

DYES FC edged out FC Deccan 2-1 in the BDFA 'A' division football league here on Friday.

The results: DYES FC 2 (Shankar Kadam 5, Santosh Tamata 60) bt FC Deccan 1 (Krabi Komilton 80); Bangalore Dream United FC 5 (K. Lalrinfela 7, 29, Hari Barman 8, 47, Ritik Singh 60) bt Vijayanagara FC 0.

Indian Open Jumps competition from today

The 4th Indian Open Jumps Competition is set to be held at the Anju Bobby George Foundation here on Saturday.

The meet is a qualifying event for September's World Athletics Championships in Tokyo and is likely to see participation from the likes of Commonwealth Games medallist Abdulla Aboobacker and Asian Games medallist Ancy Sojan among others.

There is, however, a dawn-to-dusk Statewide 'Karnataka Bandh' that has been called by pro-Kannada organisations, and it remains to be seen if it affects the conduct of the competition.

Champions: R. Kishan and P. Geetha. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Nawaz's blitz helps Pakistan thrash NZ in third T20I

Agence France-Presse
AUCKLAND

Opener Hasan Nawaz struck a record-breaking maiden century as Pakistan crushed New Zealand by nine wickets in the third T20I here on Friday to keep the series alive. After scoring a duck in each of the two opening games, Nawaz rebounded with a stunning 105 not out in Auckland as the tourists raced to 207 for one in response to New Zealand's 204. The 23-year-old's century came off 44 balls, the fastest by any Pakistan player in a T20 international.

The scores: New Zealand 204 in 19.5 overs (Mark Chapman 94, Raul 3/29) lost to Pakistan 207/1 in 16 overs (Nawaz 105 n.o, Agha 51 n.o). **Toss:** Pakistan. **PoM:** Nawaz.

BFI chief assures boxers of all support

Uthra Ganesan
GREATER NOIDA

With several of the big names missing and others getting a direct entry into the knockout rounds, action on the opening day of the eighth Elite Women's National Boxing Championships was more outside the ring than inside with BFI president Ajay Singh flanked by current and former champions and accompanied by IOA president P.T. Usha in a show of strength at the Shaheed Vijay Singh Pathik Sports Complex here on Friday.

Singh, on his part reiterated his assurance that those who haven't been able to participate, including Olympic medallist Lovlina Borgohain, due to internal friction will continue to have his support and insisted that those who are participating here will be taken care of both in terms of performances and future participation in camps and competitions. With the likes of World Champions L. Sarita Devi, Nikhat Zareen, Olympic medallist Vijender Singh and Commonwealth Games champion Manoj Kumar turning up, there was clearly more talent on the dais.

In the ring, the only two notable entries scheduled to be in action – two-time World Youth Champion Sakshi in the 54kg and Olympian Jaismine Lamboria in the 57kg, both representing Services Sports Control Board - got a walkover while reigning champion Anamika Hooda of Railways began her title defence with a second round knockout win against Sikkim's Prava Gajneer in the 50kg.